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### Presidential Materials Review Board

**Review on Contested Documents**

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Collection: H. R. Haldeman
Box Number: 231

253  Retain  Open
254  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to HRH, 5-10-71
255  Retain  Open
256  Retain  Close Invasion of Privacy Memo, Strachan to HRH, 5-7-71
257  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to HRH, 5-7-71
258  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to HRH, 5-6-71
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263  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to HRH, 5-4-71
264  Retain  Open
265  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to Huntsman, 5-3-71
266  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to Kehrli, 5-27-71
267  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to Kehrli, 5-25-71
268  Retain  Open
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274  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to Magruder, 5-27-71
275  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to Magruder, 5-7-71
276  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to Magruder, 5-6-71
277  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to Magruder, 5-4-71
278  Return  Private/Political Memo, Strachan to Magruder, 5-4-71
Presidential Materials Review Board
Review on Contested Documents

Collection: H. R. Haldeman
Box Number: 231

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May 20, 1971

Dear Tom:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation this morning, I have given some thought to the type of questions we might want you to put to the data that you have developed for us recently. Three questions come immediately to mind:

1. Whether Wallace hurts the Democrats more than us if he is on the ballot.

2. Which groups account for the shift in support of the President's policies on Vietnam and his popularity.

3. Is there a correlation between increased consumer activism and voting pattern?

Why don't you run these by your data and see what results you can develop. If you have any questions please call me.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Gordon Strachan

Mr. Tom Benham
Opinion Research Corporation
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

GS:jj
May 14, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON BAUKOL
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

As the attached letter from HUMAN EVENTS indicates, they have a substantial mailing list. Is this part of our computer mailing list at the RNC?

If not, it might be worthwhile checking out the availability of this mailing list to us.

As you can see I copied Howard on this memo and you should discuss it with him before proceeding.

Could you advise me by May 19 of your decision in this matter?

Due
May 19

cc: Dick Howard

GS:lm
May 26, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. COLSON
FROM: H.R. HALEMAN
SUBJECT: Plan for Countering Democratic Contrived Straw Polls

Attempts to show certain Democratic contenders' election chances improving by use of fabricated straw, radio, and other media polls will increase from now on. As you can see from the attached, one previous feeble attempt was made to develop a strategy.

Would you please take charge of this project and keep me posted on your plans.

GS:1m
May 26, 1971

Dear Dave:

I learned yesterday that your charming wife died unexpectedly Sunday. The shock depressed me until I realized that you needed our help and support in this difficult time.

Please accept our condolences and know that our prayers seek strength for you.

Sincerely,

H.R. Haldeman

Dr. David R. Derge
Woodruff Lane
Bittner Woods
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

GS:lm
WIRE

Night letter to:

Dr. David R. Derge
Woodruff Lane
Bittmer Woods
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

I was deeply shocked to learn of your great loss.

Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Signed -

Bob Haldeman
Per our conversation. Mr. Colson added that setting up this group may even look like we are planning on being out of office in '73.

Dick
May 25, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: HARRY DENT
FROM: H.R. HALEMAN

Your recent memorandum suggested that the Republican coordinating committee be reactivated. A review of the members of the previous committee indicates that there might be a good deal of duplication if the proposal were re-instituted. The Congressional Leadership meetings cover the House and Senate leaders. Dole, Armstrong and Evans have independent access as do the Governors.

Also, re-establishing a group that is only in existence when we are out of office could give the impression that we are planning on that circumstance in 1973.

Do you really think the group, even if expanded instead of " pared down", would add anything?

GS:1m
May 12, 1971

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

Your arrangements for our stay in Williamsburg were perfect. Staying at Orlando Jones added the extra dimension.

My parents, grandmother and wife thoroughly enjoyed the relaxed, non-amusement park atmosphere. You are to be congratulated on the fine restoration.

I hope you enjoyed the White House Correspondents’ Association dinner.

Please give us a call the next time you are in Washington.

Sincerely,

Gordon Strachan

Mr. Donald J. Gonzales
Colonial Williamsburg
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

GS:Im
May 27, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:  H.R. HALDEMAN

FROM:  GORDON STRACHAN

The Attorney General will hold another political meeting with Magruder, Dent, LaRue, Kleindienst, and Nunn tomorrow beginning at 2:00 p.m.

You suggested in a previous memorandum (copy attached) that I should either be included or get a recap from Magruder.

Magruder will not include me or recap the content without the Attorney General's approval. Magruder, however, will not seek this approval because he is not confident enough of his relationship with the Attorney General. The result is that you will have to raise this subject with the Attorney General to get a decision.

A suggested talking paper is attached.
TALKING PAPER FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: Strachan's Attendance at the Political Meetings

Gordon Strachan currently keeps track of many of the political details that flow into this office. He and Magruder work very closely on political matters. Strachan is not a political operative; he would merely report to me.

In your weekly political meeting with Kleindienst, Nunn, LaRue, Dent and Magruder, would it be appropriate for Gordon Strachan to attend?

GS
May 27, 1971
May 29, 1971

That Buchanan should be given the responsibility to contact Conservatives

H.R. Haldeman

FROM: GORDON STRACHAN
SUBJECT: Buchanan's Memorandum on Conservatives

Buchanan sent the attached memorandum (tab A) on the YAF move toward Reagan. Buchanan argues persuasively that any attack on the YAF's by the White House is counter-productive. He does not know the source of the attack.

The only project I know about involving our response to the YAF move was your request of the Attorney General on May 26. He asked Magruder to get the facts. Magruder had Bob Odle prepare a report (tab B) on the situation. Odle's report has no more information than Buchanan's. Both are trying to find out who in the Administration is urging the resignations from the YAF Advisory Board.

Buchanan and Odle agree that Reagan's written attack on the YAF move for a RR candidacy has solved the problem.

Recommendation:

That Buchanan and Odle try to get the source of the White House attack and stop it.

Agree__________________ Disagree__________________

Comment__________________

Buchanan also says that the allegedly White House inspired idea that the Vice President be appointed to the Supreme Court to make room for Reagan as Veep should be squelched. I agree.

Recommendation:

That Buchanan should be given the responsibility to contact Conservatives and put a stop to this rumor.

Agree__________________ Disagree__________________ Comment__________________
MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. Haldeman
FROM: Gordon Strachan

Dwight Chapin is still (May 28, 1:00 p.m.) trying to reach his contact in the Gallup Organization for the Trial Heat information. He is still trying and will advise us as soon as he hears.

GS:lm
MEMORANDUM FOR:          LARRY HIGBY
FROM:                     GORDON STRACHAN
SUBJECT:                  Home Testing Institute Poll

You asked to have someone give a quick analysis of material that Pat Buchanan had sent to Mr. Haldeman concerning the Home Testing Institute Poll. I talked with Tom Benham and read the text of the information to him. He had these observations:

1. Home Testing Institute does mail polls. That is, when they are mailing materials to housewives, they frequently include questions which are probably the source of the attached poll. The problem with any mail poll is that there is no way to assess representativeness. The sample cannot be checked;

2. The sample is frequently heavily concentrated in cities, where it is more economical to use some of the Home Testing Institute mailing lists;

3. The questions themselves are faulty in that no real alternatives are offered. For example, "If the next Presidential election were held today, would you vote for Nixon-Agnew?". This is not a real trial heat because the opposition candidate is not named. This explains the very high percentage (36.2%) who "aren't sure". The reason they aren't sure is that they have no alternative. Benham characterized paragraph five "after calculating the percentage of shifts since 1968, it is found that we have lost more than 3.25 votes for every one that we have picked up" as very, very risky; and

4. In addition to these specific criticisms of the poll, Tom Benham characterized Home Testing Institute Polls as "crap".

GS:lm
MEMORANDUM FOR: LARRY HIGBY
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN
SUBJECT: Alabama/Indiana Polls

Suggested questions for the Indiana/Alabama 500 interview telephone polls are attached.

Benham advises that ORC could conduct the survey, but needs four days lead time (preparation of the telephone samples). This preparation could not be done over Memorial Day Weekend, so the poll couldn't be done by ORC until next weekend, June 5-6. Benham contacted Chilton anonymously and they could do the survey beginning next Tuesday, June 1. Chilton would charge $7-8 per interview, so the total cost would be $3,500-4,000. This includes demographics. ORC would charge about the same even if we reduced the number of questions because of the background work required.

I called Keith Bales, the fellow from Indiana that you met before the RNC dinner. He has used Market Opinion Research in 1968, 1969, and 1970. He had utmost confidence in the group. I have met Rob Teeter, the MOR representative, and he is a good man, but unavailable this weekend.

Alabama, according to Mike Duval, who was the lead advance man on the recent trip, is more of a problem. The Republican party there would not handle even the inquiry about a poll discreetly. Other Duval contacts are in the Wallace camp. So it looks as if we would have to work through Blount.

GS:lm
Suggested Questions for the Indiana Poll

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Richard Nixon is handling his job as President?

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Nixon is handling the Vietnam situation?

3. If the next Presidential election were held today, would you vote for Birch Bayh?

4. Is Birch Bayh a serious Presidential contender, or is he merely a stalking horse for Edward Kennedy?

5. In 1972 there will be another Presidential election. Suppose this election were being held today and the candidates were Richard Nixon and Birch Bayh, which one would you vote for?

6. In 1972 there will be another Presidential election. Suppose this election were being held today and the candidates were Richard Nixon, Birch Bayh, and George Wallace as a third party candidate, which one would you vote for?
HIGH PRIORITY

May 27, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. HALEMAN
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

Job Magruder forwarded the attached memo on the CSI — Bob Finch matter. The memo asked for the Attorney General's decision on signing the leases for $60,000 that Finch had committed.

Magruder called this morning to say that Finch had talked to him and reported that the Attorney General had given Finch the O.K. for Magruder to sign the contract.

I know you talked to Finch on this matter this morning and thought you might be interested in this information.

GS:lm
May 27, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. HALEMAN
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

The Attorney General just called Magruder about the CSI - Finch matter. The Attorney General directed Magruder to:

1. Inform Finch that the Citizens will not sign the leases;

2. Pursue alternate means of financing; Magruder is to contact Perot and Wiley directly about their individual or joint investment in CSI;

3. Inform Tom Evans at the RNC that the leases are not to be signed.

Magruder thinks that the Attorney General would have accepted the system had adequate background work been done.

Magruder emphasizes that Finch is now in a real bind vis a vis his commitment to Put Livermore. Finch will probably be quite upset at this decision.

GS:lm
May 25, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:  

N. R. HALEDMAN  

FROM:  

GORDON STRACHAN  

SUBJECT:  

Flash’s Agreements with Computer Systems, Inc.

Last December Bert Porter went to California on Flash’s behalf to see C.S. Computer Systems, Inc. Porter submitted a memorandum to Flash on December 28, 1970, which recommended that $750,000 should be accumulated to take over CSU. You reviewed this proposal in a meeting in your office with Flash and Porter. You decided that $750,000 should not be appropriated but that Porter or Sam Wiley should be encouraged to take over CSU. Neither did, and the project languished in Flash’s office for five months. Severe problems developed while Flash was in Europe.

Bob Magruder and Bert Porter went to Flash’s office last Wednesday to discuss the 10-20 year old rent lease issue. Flash instead gave Magruder equipment leases to cover the operation of CSU from January 1 to October 31, 1971. The leases provided for the payment of $43,000 and were to be signed by Magruder on behalf of the City Council Committee. Magruder, not surprisingly, said to let me check with the Attorney General before signing. Magruder and Porter saw the Attorney General on Friday. The Attorney General asked for time to “review the bidding” and this information was relayed to Flash by Porter. Magruder is to prepare a statement of the facts for the Attorney General on Wednesday, May 26. This decision may be delayed until Friday, May 28, depending on the Attorney General’s schedule.

It turns out that the pressure on Flash to come up with the money is fairly severe because:

1. Flash committed himself to Pat Livermore to cover the $65,000 for leases for January 1 to October 31, 1971.

2. Pat Livermore, on the basis of this assurance, took CSU under his wing by raising and authorizing the expenditure of $150,000. Another $40,000 is to be raised by Livermore.
3. Pat Livermore sent Darrell Weida to Finch’s office Friday to pick up the executed leases. Weida will apparently wait in Washington until the leases are signed.

4. Due to John Rowe’s urging the RNC put $35,000 into CSI. The California Republican State Central Committee now owns a CSI data base as a result of this investment. It is unclear who authorized this expenditure but it is viewed as part of the Finch transaction.

5. Of the original $45,000 commitment, $12,000 has been paid ($10,000 from Finch, source unknown) $2,000 from Livermore. Finch apparently has another $10,000 for the project.

The result is that the balance due is $48,552 and Finch has stated that whether the Attorney General authorizes the expenditure or not, Finch will stand by his cash commitment to Livermore.

As to the merits of the system, no recommendation will be made to the Attorney General by Magruder. Rather, Magruder will emphasize that the system could be very helpful in California, but that its application to a national campaign has not been evaluated. Similarly, no one has examined the reasons why in December the system cost $700,000 whereas today $60,000 could keep it going until October 31, 1971.

RECOMMENDATION:

There has been no detailed White House evaluation of the system since December. In that six months the cost has dropped to one-tenth of the original proposal. Before $40,000 is appropriated, Bob Martin, Magruder’s project manager for the Research Task Force, should submit a written description of the capabilities of CSI to you and the Attorney General.

Approve ___________________________ Disapprove ___________________________

Comment ____________________________________________________________

GS:kb
DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
E.O. 12065, Section 6-102
May 12, 1971

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. Haldeman
FROM: Gordon Strachan
SUBJECT: Funds for Special Election in Maryland

Sloan delivered the $25,000 cash to Bob Hitt by the close of business yesterday. In the course of the discussions with Hitt, Sloan received the impression that Hitt knew of Morton's commitment to repay the amount shortly after the election whether Bill Mills wins or loses.

Dent was informed of the transfer, commitment, and repayment details last night. He expressed the view that he's "glad he's not in Morton's shoes on the commitment."

Sloan is following up on Kalmbach's contacts to assure a strong inflow of cash. Fifty thousand is expected daily and another $100,000 within two weeks. Sloan talked with Kalmbach on Monday, May 10, about other specific transactions. The net result is that Sloan should be able to respond if another reasonable request were submitted.

Kalmbach will return from Europe in two weeks. That would seem to be an appropriate time for a detailed review of the financial position, so that a report can be prepared for you.

GS: 1m
May 11, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. HALEYMAN
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN
SUBJECT: Funds for Special Election in Maryland

Sloan can have the $25,000 in cash by the close of business today.

You wanted to call Secretary Morton back to inform him that $25,000 would be supplied on the express condition that it would be paid back shortly after the May 27 election regardless of whether the candidate, Bill Miles, wins or loses. A suggested talking paper is attached.

Hugh Sloan can handle the transfer details with Bob Kitt. After you talk with Morton, I can explain the agreement and procedure to Sloan.

Recommendation:

Dent was originally told that there would be no funds available. He should now be told of the commitment without involving him in the details.

Agree __________________ Disagree __________________

Comment ________________________________

GS: lm
May 7, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. Haldeman
FROM: Gordon Strachan
SUBJECT: Morton Request for Funds for Special Election in Maryland

Yesterday you indicated to Secretary Morton that the chances were very slim of us supplying funds to the special election.

He was directed to approach the campaign committee and RNC.

However, in his mind there may be some question as to whether you were going to double check the level of our funds and get back to him.

As I understand the rule and explained to Dent this morning, we do not have funds available for this purpose. If that is the case, you may want to send the attached memorandum to Morton or use it as a talking paper.

Agree (no funds available; Haldeman will contact Morton)

Disagree (Strachan arrange for $20,000 to Morton)

Other

Back-up memoranda attached.

GS:lm
May 7, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: LARRY HIGBY
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN
SUBJECT: "Watches" on Democratic Contenders

Magruder's group for keeping track of Democratic and Republican contenders has Pat Buchanan as Chairman and Bob Marik as Project Manager.

Other members of the group include: Finch, Harlow, Moore, Price, Timmons, Walker, DeBolt, and Nofsiger.

Magruder has contacted each one of them and they are considering assigning one member of the task force to each particular contender.

If you feel this group is of the quality you want to maintain the "watches", we could have Magruder work through Buchanan to assure that the Humphrey and Kennedy watches correspond in both quality and approach to the Buchanan watch on Muskie.

Proceed with Magruder and Buchanan.

Agree________________________________ Disagree________________________________

Comment________________________________________________________________________

GS: lm
May 5, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. Haldeman
FROM: Gordon Strachan
SUBJECT: Special Election in Maryland

Dent has submitted the attached request for $20,000 to aid Bill Mills' campaign for Rogers Norton's seat.

You will recall that the rule for candidate support is: "none . . . (of 'our' funds) at any time in any case." (memo attached). Dent is aware of this reaction to his previous request for funds in the South Carolina race. However, Dent feels that this seat can be won and that a loss would be interpreted as a defeat for the administration.

Recommendation:

The rule is clear, and Dent's arguments are not that strong. The request should be denied.

Agree __________________________ Disagree __________________________

Comment __________________________

GS: lm
May 26, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:  H.R. Haldeman
FROM:  Gordon Strachan
SUBJECT:  Mrs. Mitchell's Scheduling

Magruder reports that after extensive discussion with Dick Moore and the Attorney General, the decision was reached to have Mrs. Mitchell's scheduling handled by Jeb Magruder and Bart Porter at an office in the Citizens for the Re-election of the President suite.

Telephone requests come through a separate line, but the risk of discovery remains high because Magruder will be dealing with the TV networks and other newsmen. Also, Mrs. Mitchell stopped by the Citizens office last Friday to discuss several scheduling matters.

GS:Im
May 26, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. HALEMAN
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN
SUBJECT: Gallup Poll Update

Chapin believes that Gallup was in the field the week-end before last (May 15-16). He is trying to double check the dates and obtain the trial heat information, but his Gallup contacts are on their way to Pennsylvania and so temporarily unavailable. He will report to us as soon as he hears.

GS: lm
May 26, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:      H.R. HALEMEN
FROM:                GORDON STRACHAN

After your conversation with the Attorney General I checked
with Rose Mary Woods and learned that Leonard Firestone
had been invited to the wedding. He has accepted the
invitation and will return from Europe to attend the
wedding.

GS:1m
MEMORANDUM FOR: LARRY HIGBY
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

May 26, 1971

As to your request about the Magruder follow-up on Don Schollander, I talked with Jeb this morning.

Magruder had invited Don Schollander to attend the private meeting of the Citizens for the Re-election of the President to be held today at the Hay Adams Hotel. Schollander had accepted, but John Rose called Schollander and advised him that it probably wasn't really necessary for him to come. Needless to say, Magruder was slightly upset.

Magruder had planned to talk with Schollander after his meeting with the President, but Rose squired him away. Magruder will talk to Rose and Schollander to centralize contact with Jeb so that Schollander is brought into the fold correctly.

I will follow-up with Magruder weekly on this matter.
May 21, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. HALEYMAN
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

A recent discussion with the Attorney General raised the subject of a plan for winning Senator Jordan's seat.

Harry Dent submitted the attached descriptions of the North Carolina situation. The following points are made:

1. The most recent North Carolina poll indicates Jordan would beat the most formidable GOP challenger, Congressman Jim Broyhill, by 12%.

2. Broyhill probably will not run because of the risk of losing and issue differences with the Administration.

3. Congressman Vinegar Bend Misell wants to wait for Senator Ervin's seat in 1974 because he too would lose by 12%.

4. Jim Gardner ran for Governor in 1960 and received 48% of the vote. He could be encouraged to enter the Senate seat race but may want to challenge GOP State Chairman Jim Bolshouser for the gubernatorial nomination. Both Gardner and Bolshouser would lose to the Democratic candidate, whoever that might be.

5. Polls taken by the John Bucci firm show the President at 55-37-8 (Republicans, 65-27-9; Democrats, 51-41-9), but trial heats show Nixon 39%, Muskie 40%, Wallace 18%, Don't Know 3%; without Wallace it is Nixon 47%, Muskie 46%, Don't Know 7%.

6. Dent will continue to watch North Carolina carefully.

7. The Attorney General also received copies of Dent's analysis and you may want to discuss the subject with him to develop action steps for Dent.

GS:1m
May 19, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: 
LARRY HIGBY

FROM: 
GORDON STRACHAN

In the rambling discussion Monday with Chapin, he raised an interesting point that you might want to consider. It concerns to what extent we should build Dent, Finch, and other high visibility political operatives in the public's mind. The theory is that by building these independent agents in the press we increase the protection afforded to Mr. Haldeman, so that he does not appear to be the "Czar".

On another matter, you may be interested to know that Ehrlichman went over to the Citizens Committee at 1701 to say hello to Magruder on Monday.

GS:1m
May 19, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: LARRY HIGBY
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

In our discussion last night about the status of the polling in Texas matter, the subject of whether we should do pre and post trip polling in some of the states that we are visiting in the next few months was raised.

Did you want me to follow-up with Benham and Chapin on a particular proposal?

GS:lm
May 10, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: LARRY HIGBY
FROM: GORDON STRACIAN
Subject: Gallup Release

The Gallup Trial Beat release, which showed Kennedy ahead of Muskie, was not received by the usual sources here at the White House. A check with Dwight Chapin and Nell Yates indicated that a copy of the release was not received. Similarly, Rose Smith in Harry Dent's office had not received the release.

Discussions with Dwight Chapin disclosed the problems we sometimes have in getting releases which do not directly concern the President from Gallup prior to their release to the newspapers. However, Dwight indicated that he would call Gallup (probably John Davies) and try to establish a system similar to the one Colson has with Harris; that is, receipt of every release prior to its distribution to the press.

Dwight felt it would be best if I did not call Gallup directly and try to set up a separate system. I agree with his suggestion. Therefore, we will rely on Dwight's contact with Gallup and weekly checks by Nell Yates and our office.

If you have any other suggestions, please advise.

cc: Dwight Chapin

GS: lm
May 10, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. Haldeman
FROM: Gordon Strachan
SUBJECT: Citizens for the Re-Election of the President

Magruder met with the Attorney General and received clearance for the last two names on the Committee - Eric Jonsson, former Mayor of Dallas, and Frank Borman, Astronaut. The other members of the Committee (Frank Dale, Mac Fisher, Tom Pappas, Rita Hauser, Don Schollander, and Bob Volk) were brought to your attention in the April 30 memorandum attached at tab A. The formal announcement will be tomorrow in Cincinnati at 2:00 p.m. Frank Dale will issue the press release attached at tab B. The possible questions and suggested responses are at tab C.

Magruder will be in Cincinnati with Dale for the announcement. Magruder reports that the announcement should get some national media coverage.

The 14 task forces began operating when their members were cleared with the Attorney General. The members names and a brief description of their function appears at tab D. A detailed description of the "missions" of the task forces appears at tab E.

GS: lm
MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. HALDENGAN
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN
SUBJECT: Poll Information for the Attorney General

May 7, 1971

With Harris scheduled to release information on trial heats soon, you may wish to provide our latest trial heat information to the Attorney General.

If you approve, this material could be transmitted directly by you or through Magruder.

Directly

Magruder

GS:1m
MEMORANDUM FOR: E.R. Haldeman
FROM: Gordon Strachan
SUBJECT: Staff Use of Haldeman's Library

Mention was made of the fact that you would not have time to read many of the books in your library.

Eight books have been removed and members of the staff have been asked to read them. Staff members were approached informally. They were not specifically directed to read them for you. Rather the approach was that with the election coming up it would be advantageous for the staff to have read certain standard texts. As each book is read the staff member will prepare a brief (2-3 pages) statement of the useful information in the book. These statements could then be submitted to you and if you approve distributed to the top staff.

As new books come in, Pat McGee will leave them in your office for one week, and if you don't begin reading the book, it will be given to a staff member.

The books currently being read are:

MEMOIRS - Krock: Magruder
HIDDEN CRISIS - Lubell: Strachan
A WHITE HOUSE DIARY - Mrs. Johnson: Mrs. Strachan
THE TWILIGHT OF THE PRESIDENCY - Reedy: Rehrli
INSIDE THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY - Redding: Odle
A HISTORY OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS - Roseboom: Bull
THE POLITICS OF THE NATIONAL PARTY CONVENTIONS - David: Sloan
May 6, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:          H.R. Haldeman
FROM:                     Gordon Strachan
SUBJECT:                  Poll Information for the Attorney General

Presumably the Attorney General needs the trend information on the Trial Heats. Magruder is anxious to see these also. If he should have access the material could be transmitted to the Attorney General via Magruder.

Approve_________________ Disapprove_________________

If disapprove, should the material go directly to the Attorney General?

Yes______________________ No_______________________

Comment__________________________________________

GS: lm
MEMORANDUM FOR: H.R. Haldeman
FROM: Gordon Strachan
SUBJECT: Astronaut Cunningham

Murray Chotiner sent the attached material on Walter Cunningham. Chotiner is suggesting that he be contacted about challenging McCloskey in his California district.

Is this the type of individual we want Colson or someone on the outside to approach?

YES____ NO____

If yes, Hofsiger instead of Colson should discreetly have Cunningham contacted and keep us posted.

Agree________________ Disagree_________________
MEMORANDUM FOR: JON HUNTSMAN
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

May 3, 1971

As you may recall, from our meeting with John Brown and Ray Underwood, I was to review periodically the RNC budget.

Dick Howard in Chuck Colson's office should now review RNC budget activity #3 in light of Jeb Magruder's departure.

When would it be convenient for Dick Howard and me to sit down with you and review the most recent RNC budget figures?

cc: Dick Howard

GS:1m
May 27, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:  
BRUCE KEHRLI

FROM:  
GORDON STRACHAN

SUBJECT:  
Dwight Chapin's President's Use of Television Project

This afternoon I spent 15 minutes with Chapin and Bill Carruthers concerning this project.

I explained to them the substance of Derge's comments on the ASI proposal. Derge's comments, which were given to me over the telephone and will probably not be submitted in writing, concerned the purity of the ASI sample. Derge was concerned that geographically ASI would not get a reading on the country's attitude because it does most of its interviewing in Los Angeles. Derge was also concerned about the size of the city in which the sample would be conducted. Carruthers will have ASI respond to these criticisms.

Chapin called Jack Ball of JWT to confirm that ASI is the best group of this type.

Chapin also raised the question of whether ASI has political experience. Carruthers responded that ASI had done work for Rockefeller, Governor Brown, RFK and McCarthy. Carruthers will ask ASI if they are currently helping Democratic contenders. If they are, according to Chapin, ASI would be excluded from our consideration.

So much for the substance of the meeting. The real question is when a proposal will be submitted to Mr. Haldeman. Chapin is pushing Carruthers and seems to have moved this project up to the front burner.

GS:Im
May 25, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: BRUCE KEHRLI
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

A recent follow-up check with Magruder on the ethnic situation at the RNC and at the Citizens disclosed the following:

1. Colson has been asked to take charge of ethnic activities for the Citizens Committee. This assignment has been cleared with the Attorney General.

2. Colson has yet to have a meeting of the Ethnic Group Task Force, but has assured Magruder that he will have such a meeting this week.

3. Lasslo Passtor prevailed upon Colson to get a Presidential letter Friday which established the permanency of the Heritage group at the RNC. This letter was probably a mistake.

4. Magruder and Colson will keep the ethnic operation at the Citizens group separate from Passtor's generally unsuccessful activities at the RNC.

The net result is that pursuit of the ethnic vote has not been put on the front burner. However, Magruder will be periodically prodded to produce the type of recommendation necessary for submission to the Attorney General and Haldeman.

GS:lm
May 27, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: JEB NAGRUDER
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

Pursuant to our telephone conversation yesterday, would you advise me as to what steps the Attorney General may have directed you to take concerning the YAF's possible move to push Reagan.

This subject may be raised in our meeting with Haldeman and the Attorney General, so we should know the status soon.

Thank you.
May 7, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: JEB MAGRUDER
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

We received a call today from George Goodling, Republican Congressman of Pennsylvania, about his campaign manager, John Bex. John Bex is currently the Regional Director of the Civil Defense (Region Three) area. John Bex contacted the Congressman's office about offering his time and services for the re-election of the President. The Congressman gives him a strong recommendation and you should probably have an appointment with Mr. Bex.

His telephone number is 921-5110, extension 5541.

GS:lm
May 6, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: JEB MAGRUDER
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN
SUBJECT: Mock Conventions on College and High School Campuses

After our conversation, I thought it might be helpful if I put into writing some of the suggestions that were raised and that you may want to consider in the preparation of your proposal covering mock conventions on college and high school campuses.

As I understand it, you will prepare an entire youth strategy, which would include a particular plan for our approach to these mock conventions.

In the meantime, would you send me a copy of the Mort Allen proposals on the subject together with your cover memorandum briefly outlining the time schedule that you anticipate.

Would it be unreasonable to expect this by Monday, May 10?

Due
May 10, 1971
GS:1m
MEMORANDUM FOR:        JEB MAGRUDER

FROM:                    GORDON STRACHAN

Discussion with Lee Nunn yesterday indicated that the fund raising committees (Senatorial, House and National) were put together in order to prevent any duplication or conflicts.

I understand that Bob Wilson should be contacted and given some high level "treatment", in order to keep him within that structure.

Senator Dominick on the other hand does not need any particular contact.
MEMORANDUM FOR: JEB MAGRUDER
FROM: GORDON STRACHAN

As you know, Buchanan has established a Muskie "watch".

Please talk to Marik about establishing a similar structure for Humphrey and Kennedy.

I assume that the other Democratic contenders are being watched by your Democratic Contenders Group.

Could you let me know on Friday, May 7, the status of this project.

Due Date
May 7, 1971

GS:lm