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FILE GROUP TITLE: STAFF COUNCIL

BOX NUMBER: 85

FOLDER TITLE: Presidential Memos 1976

RESTRICTION CODES:

A. Release would violate a Federal statute or Agency Policy.
B. National security classified information.
C. Pending or approved claim that release would violate an individual's rights.
D. Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy or a libel of a living person.
E. Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information.
F. Release would disclose investigatory information compiled for law enforcement purposes.
G. Withdrawn and return private and personal material.
H. Withdrawn and returned non-historical material.
Presidential Materials Review Board

Review on Contested Documents

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March 22, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:       ★AY PRICE
LEN GARMENT
HERB KLEIN
PAT BUCHANAN

FROM:                   JON HUNTSAN

SUBJECT:                Jim Keogh's Letter

The President has asked that you note the following portions of a letter from Jim Keogh regarding his upcoming book:

--I have done one thing about arrangements for the book which I did not expect to do when I told you what I had in mind. You may recall that it was my intention to deal with a publisher other than Reader's Digest because of the possibility that the other media might dismiss the book on the grounds that the Digest is too biased toward you. However, after talking with some other publishers, I became seriously concerned that I would encounter real trouble in maintaining my own position against the doctrinaire liberal bias of their editors.

At Doubleday, Kenneth McCormick was all right but his principal editor is a classic New York liberal establishment type who immediately started trying to tell me what kind of book he thought I should write. At Putnam's I got the impression that what they really wanted was an exercise in apostasy.

So, in the end, I reached an agreement with Hobe Lewis and his people, with whom I feel confident about getting what I want to say published. The book will bear a Reader's Digest Press credit but will actually be published and distributed as a joint venture with one of the big publishing houses and will also carry that firm's label. --
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 18, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: JON HUNTSMAN
FROM: BRUCE KEHRLE
SUBJECT: The Attached

Mr. Haldeman has asked that you send a memo to Price, Garment, Klein and Buchanan indicating that:

The President has asked that you note the following portions of a letter from Jim Keogh regarding his upcoming book.

'I have done one thing about arrangements for the book which I did not expect to do when I told you what I had in mind. You may recall that it was my intention to deal with a publisher other than Reader's Digest because of the possibility that the other media might dismiss the book on the grounds that the Digest is too biased toward you. However, after talking with some other publishers, I became seriously concerned that I would encounter real trouble in maintaining my own position against the doctrinaire liberal bias of their editors.

At Doubleday, Kenneth McCormick was all right but his principal editor is a classic New York liberal establishment type who immediately started trying to tell me what kind of book he thought I should write. At Putnam's I got the impression that what they really wanted was an exercise in apostasy.

So, in the end, I reached an agreement with Hobe Lewis and his people, with whom I feel confident about getting what I want to say published. The book will bear a Reader's Digest Press credit but will actually be published and distributed as a joint venture with one of the big publishing houses and will also carry that firm's label.'

Thank you.
February 10, 1971

Dear Mr. President:

After taking some time off in the sun of Mexico and Arizona, I am now getting down to work in earnest on the book. I want to thank you for your memorandum of January 14; the thesis you outlined is very close to my own general approach to the subject although you, of course, have some insights which I could not have had.

In the background reading that I did while on vacation, I was somewhat surprised to be reminded of the context in which John Adams was vilified by the partisan press of his day. He was called "arrogant," accused of "pusillanimous neglect," said to have a "sick mind"—and there were predictions that posterity would find no visage in his administration. The tone has a familiar ring.

I have done one thing about arrangements for the book which I had not expected to do when I told you that I had in mind. You may recall that it was my intention to deal with the Press of the time as it were because of the possibility that the other side might dismiss the book on the grounds that the thesis is too biased toward you. Moreover, given today's "with some other publisher," I thought another and more objective view on the role of the editor in a newspaper establishment might make a contribution toward the accuracies liberal bias of their editors.

At Doubleday, Jeaneth McCorquodale is all right but his principal editor is a devotee of the Establishment type and less likely to sterically try to tell me what kind of book he thought I should write. At least I got the impression that what they really wanted was an exercise in apostasy.

So, in the end, I reached an agreement with Charles Lewis & Co., with whom I am confident that reality shall emerge to say published. The book will be published in a hard cover and it will actually be a new and joint venture with Charles Lewis & Co. and the two of us will share in every revenue that comes in.
As I get on with the job, I expect to be in touch with Job Haldeman, Chief of Staff, Fort. Llin and quite a few others. My principal need, I believe, will be to get precise verification for facts to contrast with what the media conveyed.

Once again, let me say that I deeply appreciate your interest and thank you for your most helpful memorandum—which I shall use for background only.

With best wishes always,

[Signature]

The President
The White House
Washington