

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

✓ P.  
Trump

August 27, 1969

TO: BOB HALDEMAN  
FROM: BRYCE HARLOW BA  
SUBJECT: Anna Chennault

On August 9, on the urgent request of Senators Tower and Mundt, I met in The White House with Mrs. Chennault. At issue was her relations with the Nixon Administration.

Seems she is being cut up by press etc. for her alleged activities during the campaign involving South Vietnam. Certain aspects of this you and I know; she asserts that everything she did was with the full knowledge of John Mitchell and Bob Hill and, in some other respects, Dick Allen. There was also some involvement, you may recall, of Tony Jurich, staff assistant with the Key Issues Committee.

Now Mrs. Chennault reports that she is under attack for allegedly doing things (1) inherently wrong and (2) contrary to the desires of the Nixon organization. She was particularly hurt by John Mitchell's reported comment to the press, "Who's Anna Chennault?" or something to that effect when he was recently braced about his relationships with her during the campaign.

So now she feels forsaken and humiliated by the RN folk, even as she is subjected to severe criticism for activities which she insists were undertaken at the direct request of the Nixon campaign group. To rectify all this she pleads for some overt indication that the Nixon people still regard her favorably. In particular she recommends that she be invited right soon to some White House functions so people can see that she is still sympatico vis-a-vis the Nixons and their entourage.

Both Tower and Mundt strongly urge that her appeals be suitably met. They stress her emotional upset over all this (she got right weepy telling me this story), and they are both convinced that the President would not want her to believe that he is now antagonistic toward her, or wants to ignore her, after her campaign activities, financial and otherwise.

I mentioned this problem to Rose Woods. Rose believes Mrs. Chennault is a pretty bad apple and strongly feels she should not be included in any White House function, at least not anytime soon.

My own feeling is (1) Congressional -- I'd like for us to respond favorably to the concern expressed by Tower and Mundt -- and (2) I incline toward an official friendly gesture toward her on the premise that we'll be finding it necessary to request her cooperation in the future.

So there it is. I place this before you because you might want to move the problem by the President and, if something is to be done, so Rose can be induced to include her in a suitable White House activity in the next month or so.