

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Administratively Confidential

August 10, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:

H.R. HALDEMAN

FROM:

GORDON STRACHAN *G*

SUBJECT:

Ambassadorships -
Flanigan's Office

Two matters concerning the Flanigan office handling of ambassadorships surfaced recently.

Last night Herb Kalmbach called, somewhat distressed. Flanigan had just returned Kalmbach's telephone call (after considerable delay) and told Kalmbach that there was "no commitment to move DeRoulet or Symington from Jamaica and Trinidad/Tobago". Flanigan emphasized that they were "simply not qualified". Kalmbach considers this somewhat irrelevant since in his view a "commitment" to move these two individuals to any of nine countries is in fact a "commitment". *Not when it's made by Kalmbach w/o authority as as so.*

Today the President decided that DeRoulet should be offered Finland on the basis of a Flanigan action memorandum. Flanigan was aware that Finland was not one of the original 10 committed to by Kalmbach. Flanigan reports that if DeRoulet doesn't want Finland "too bad, that's all he gets". The action memorandum also suggested that Symington will resign in the fall. The fact that he has been "assured of a European post, but none is currently available", also falls in the "too bad" category according to Flanigan.

No
Kalmbach is willing to act as either salesman for Finland or fall guy for not delivering on the "commitments". He will do whatever you ask. Kalmbach suggests that Symington and DeRoulet be encouraged to resign and return to the United States to work for the President's re-election with a firm assurance that they would receive a "top European post" after January 20, 1973. Back up memoranda including your June 15 memorandum to Flanigan relating the "commitment" and Flanigan's June 17 response are attached.

The other ambassadorship matter that Flanigan's office has been involved with concerns the C.V. Whitney move to replace Bob Hill as Ambassador to Spain. Lee Nunn and the Attorney General negotiated the original agreement with C.V. Whitney. Nunn was asked in June by Whitney when his services would be needed. Flanigan's office reported that October 15 was the scheduled departure date for Hill and so Whitney should make himself available for loosely scheduled briefings beginning around September 15. Flanigan called Whitney last weekend to say that his services might not be needed until December. Whitney called Nunn on Saturday and indicated his unhappiness at the delay in very clear terms. Nunn believes he is under considerable pressure to deliver on the deal as negotiated, especially in light of the financial help C.V. Whitney was to give with the rest of the Whitney family. Nunn plans to discuss the matter with the Attorney General. Flanigan's response to this possibility is "let him". *J. Nunn*

Fred Malek has been advised of but has not participated in these ambassadorship matters. Malek would welcome the opportunity to have all personnel matters, including top ambassadorships, under his personal jurisdiction. There is currently some confusion in his mind as to his function in this area.

Recommendations:

1) That Kalmbach be directed to contact DeRoulet about Finland and Symington about the current inability to deliver on the commitment.

Approve *H* or *let Flanigan do so* Disapprove _____
 Comment *Whitney Kalmbach papers*

2) That Nunn be informed that there is no Haldeman input on the C.V. Whitney matter.

Approve *H* Disapprove _____
 Comment _____

3) That full responsibility for all Executive Branch Personnel, including top ambassadorships, be concentrated in Malek instead of Flanigan.

Approve _____ Disapprove *H*
 Comment _____