

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 19, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: WILLIAM E. TIMMONS
FROM: TOM C. KOROLOGOS **TK**
SUBJECT: Energy/Scoop Jackson

Tuesday, in our meeting with Senator McClure, you requested information be distributed to help counter Scoop Jackson's demagoguery of the energy issue and to help Cabinet officers and other Administration supporters speak with one voice to give our side of the energy story.

I did not want to say it in the meeting, but Fannin, Hansen and McClure have a major inferiority complex when it comes to Jackson, because, frankly, he Scoops the hell out of them. Unfortunately, our Republicans in this area are a lower order of public magnitude than is Jackson himself and this is part of the problem. However, we are making every effort to cooperate and stroke the minority members.

In checking the response in the media on the energy issue it appears that the Administration generally, and you and Simon specifically, are getting vastly the lion's share of the coverage and much of the recent comment (e. g. truckers) has been positive. Because of this, we believe we should continue to accentuate the positive as a general tactic rather than take on -- and giving more visibility and credibility to Jackson.

This is not to say, however, our people cannot subtly attack Scoop and "those who talk in favor of oil and against coal in New England; for coal and against oil in coal states; on both sides, depending on where they are, on environmental waivers, etc." (This type information will be distributed orally rather than by memorandum.)

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Toward the positive end and to counter Scoop's charges of "too little -- too late", Simon's office is preparing papers for use by our supporters on the Hill as well as for Cabinet officers and "surrogates" around the country. (To be completed and distributed at the energy meeting with you this afternoon).

They also will receive a list of "major actions" (TAB-A) taken by Simon and the Energy Office, plus a list (TAB-B) of energy initiatives, much of which is hung up in Scoop's own Interior and Government Operations Committees.

In addition, our office under Timmons' direction, is working with Simon, Ash, Domestic Council and with Senate-House conferees on the Emergency Energy Act to help clean it up. Some progress is being made and we hope it will be enough. We should know this afternoon if it is heading for a possible veto because of Christmas Tree amendments or for your signature.