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Folder List

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1	23	11/25/1968	Memo	From "Allen" to Haldeman RE: John King. Handwritten notes added by unknown. 1 pg.
1	23	11/25/1968	Memo	From unknown, to unknown RE: correspondence from William Y. Elliott to Rose Mary Woods. Handwritten notes added by unknown. 2 pgs.

25 Nov 68

file

*RN cannot
now interview*

To: Haldeman
From: Allen
Re: John King

URGENT ITEM

John King asserts that RN has agreed to assisting him in the matter of the El Morgan oil well, located in the Gulf of Suez. Pan American is now drilling there; the Israelis have given a drilling concession to King, but he cannot proceed with it until he gets assurances that when drilling actually begins, the State Department will not pressure the Israelis to stop.

King leaves for Europe on Tuesday, November 26th. Before leaving, he wants to hear it from an appropriate RN staff member that we would do nothing. This assurance is to be given to the Israelis by the staff member. Only then can King proceed.

King insists that RN told him, in flight between Pittsburgh and Detroit about ten days prior to the election, to say to the Israelis that State Dept. will not be jumping down their throats, and, as far as RN was concerned, the Israelis and King could just take all their crude.

At issue is not a shutdown of Pan American, but a promise on our part not to act to cut off the Israelis. The reserves in El Morgan are estimated at 5 billion barrels, enough for about 100 years. In addition, the Israelis could use the oil.

A decision is needed immediately--a decision to put King off, and say we can't do any such thing at this time, and that we will have to wait to get all the information after taking office, etc.--or, a decision to play along with King.

It seems to me that RN must review the matter before proceeding with any response to King.

H/25/68

Dr. William Y. Elliott to rmw:

Right
SPJ

"I think it is time for me to get to the President that this Round Table for the Republic has now been agreed to and launched by Jock McCloy, Al Gruenther, etc. It really needs some thought -- I don't think he should say anything about it right now but I think he ought to know about it.

But to have all these people who worked with both of these Administrations to give and their advice and help - he needs the backing of people who can understand what other people are doing -- it is a bold and p
brave move.

Whenever he wants to talk to me I will come on call at any time -- but he ought to come firing soon because we are having these foundations go ahead and give us money.

As soon as we ~~get these people in this form get these people~~ get these people to say they would do it -- I ~~knx~~ don't know whether we have persuaded Arthur Korck because he is not feeling well. Jim Conant -- not well either. Launch this and then turn it ~~over~~ over to some younger men -- break it in -- give it your prestige -- ~~get it~~ give it your example -- fundamentals of this country. Then after that other people can help get it going.

Your example -- the honor -- I think it would be tremendously valuable to him.

We would like to put on the Ex Presidents -- DDE / Johnson / Truman -- but at least they would serve -- all ex Presidents should be on it and

some of the ex Secretaries of State. If you could get this message to him and ask him to let me know his pleasure.

Jock McCl y -- he could bring him.

arvery Branston, Chancellor of Vanderbilt -- will do the staff work on this. He is terribly good and if he can help to organize this thing and I am sure he will set up a staff.

Tell him that I will not bother him until he is ready
