

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
White House Special Files Collection
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1	35	01/04/1969	Memo	From RN to Ehrlichman RE: PR campaign. 2 pgs.
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1	35	01/04/1969	Memo	From RN to John Ehrlichman and Bob Haldeman RE: research staff. 2 pgs.
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1	35	01/04/1969	Memo	From RN to John Ehrlichman RE: Bud Wilkinson. Handwritten note added by unknown. 1 pg.
1	35	01/04/1969	Memo	From RN to Bob Haldeman RE: the Garland children. 1 pg.
1	35	01/04/1969	Memo	From RN to Rose Mary Woods RE: the Asa Calls. 1 pg.
1	35	01/04/1969	Memo	From RN to Rose Mary Woods and Bob Haldeman RE: letter signatures. Handwritten notes added by unknown. 1 pg.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

In the PR Department, I think it would be well to ask for originals of cartoons. I note that Karl Humenthal of the Herald-Examiner had one in the January 1 paper, and there are probably a number of others that we would like to have for our collection.

I doubt if I can write a letter each time since we will often find that cartoonists will hit us over and over again. But the first letter should go from me to the cartoonist, and then from time to time I probably should follow up ~~and then from time to time~~ ~~I probably should follow up~~, and then another time, Ziegler or you could drop a note requesting the original for our collection.

We might go back to the early stages of the campaign, as a matter of fact, even to the pre-convention and post-convention period, to get this collection going.

Generally speaking, only those who draw favorable cartoons will be willing to send me originals. But from time to time we should request cartoons from others, even though they are unfavorable, and continue to do so unless we get a firm statement that they do not want to send them. For example, this is the case with Herblock -- he does not give his originals to anybody.

January 4, 1969 - RN Tape

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRLICHMAN

FROM: RN

Along the lines we discussed before, I think our PR with regard to the election campaign results and in the interim has left a lot to be desired. A case in point is the margin of victory which is now over 500,000.

On January ~~31~~, the Miami Herald had an editorial in which the comment was made that although Nixon had won the presidency the margin was so small that there were strong sentiments developing for reforming the Electoral College. It is ridiculous that some of our people don't reflect a bit on the comparison of the margin in 1968 with that in 1960. The fact that in 1968 there was no question whatever about the decisiveness of the victory, both with regard to the total popular vote and the vote in the key states -- California, Illinois and Ohio -- where the margins were approximately 100,000 or more as compared with the 1960 margins of approximately 8,000 votes in Illinois, Missouri and South Carolina.

I would like a report as to what, if anything, is being done on the letter to the editor and the calls to radio and television commentators, a procedure that I suggested

be continued after the election campaign to cover items like this. You can imagine what the situation would have been had the roles been reversed. I simply think that Herb et. al don't realize the importance of hammering home the three or four simple messages with regard to the 1968 campaign and particularly on a point like this. Perhaps the fault is ours for failing to set a procedure and then riding hard on those who do not carry out our suggestions.

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January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman
FROM: RN
SUBJECT: ATTACKS ON RN

I want one of the research types to be given the assignment to go back through the last twenty years and pick up all of the unfair attacks that have been made on RN, inadvertently and otherwise. This should be a rich harvest if only someone will get at it. Particularly, I think it is essential that this be done with regard to Humphrey's statement in the last campaign. The mythology is already setting in to the effect that Humphrey was nicey-nice and that if any attacks were made that I was responsible. Again, this is a reflection on our own ineptitude in failing to get a good counter-attack developed and sold. A good article or even short book could be made on "RN, The Most Maligned Political Figure of the Twentieth Century." Give me a report as to what you have been able to do on this score.

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January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman
FROM: RN
SUBJECT: CHURCH SERVICES

I should like to start immediately -- on the first Sunday after the Inauguration -- with my program for White House Church Services. In the event that logistically it is not possible to work it out, forget it. If it is possible to work it out, then I want to go forward on it. Dr. Peale or Dr. Latch? might be the first men to participate.

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January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman
FROM: RN
SUBJECT: INVITATIONS TO WHITE HOUSE SOCIAL EVENTS

I want you to set up a procedure for the guest lists for White House dinners in which we are going to establish several new practices.

In the past, except for the governmental types that have to be included, the guest lists have too often been loaded with the International Set from New York and Washington, D.C. I do not want any of this group included in our dinners unless they were our supporters. You should immediately develop a list which covers the country and includes our major supporters from the finance, political, educational and other areas. Dinners should always have representation from labor and, while Negroes should be included, don't overlook Mexicans and other ethnic groups, particularly Italians. I have already mentioned in a memorandum that the whole Cabinet is not to be invited to each State Dinner. Usually, the Secretaries of State and Defense have to be included on each one. As far as the balance of the Cabinet are concerned, divide it up so that each Cabinet officer gets his fair share. If a Cabinet officer indicates he is particularly interested in coming to such dinners, make it clear that they

are not command performances.

Now and then, sub-Cabinet people ought to be invited to these dinners in place of the Cabinet officer himself. A sprinkling of celebrities -- again those who supported us -- should be included. Publishers who were on our side can be included but only on a very discriminating basis. How many of the White House Press Corps to be included should be determined after consultation with Ziegler, Klein and the other press types. See that over a period of four years that the ^{top} members of the White House staff have an opportunity to attend a dinner or a luncheon. Harlow will indicate what should be done about picking on the Congressional side where, of course, bi-partisan representation is required. Here again, I urge him not just to invite the leaders each time. Other members of Congress should be included where we can get away with it.

The general objective as far as these dinners are concerned is to have the group elite enough that the State visitor is convinced that he is meeting important people but, beyond that, let us pay some of our political debts this way and invite a broad cross-section of people from across the country. I do not mean to suggest that we should always exclude those who opposed us in the campaign -- naturally, on the Congressional side we will pick up the major Democratic leaders. And, in addition, where we think we can win somebody by including him, do so. But I don't want to go

down the tired old lists of the Washington and New York social set and invite them simply because they have been invited before. Also, I want you to have in mind that for eight years I was not invited to a White House luncheon or dinner by either Johnson or Kennedy. We do not want to be that small ourselves but at least we do not want to go overboard in the other direction. They used these dinners to serve their purposes and we are going to do likewise.

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January 4, 1969 - RN tape

TO: HALDEMAN
FROM: RN

Just to remind you that I would like Ash to take over the assignment immediately of making recommendations for appointments to the major agencies outside the Cabinet. And I would like a Cabinet meeting held, including everybody except Rogers who has already completed his sub-Cabinet, with Mitchell presiding, where there is some discussion of the balance along the lines we spoke of, and also where the rules for Congressional clearance for informing Governors are firmly laid down.

Another point that should be made is that when a Cabinet officer selects a deputy from any state in which another Cabinet officer resides, he should clear with that Cabinet officer as well.

My general policy is to fill all the posts we possibly can before January 20th. Delaying past January 20th should only be countenanced in those cases where a good man simply isn't available. Failing to move by the 20th, can have very difficult repercussions later on.

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January 4, 1969 - RN Tape

TO: JOHN EHRLICHMAN cc: Bob Haldeman
FROM: RN

I think we still need some beefing up on the "color" side of our research staff. Buchanan does a good job but he will be increasingly tied up on the news summaries as time goes on. As I have indicated before, Safire and possibly Gavin will be able to help in this respect. What is needed is a bit of humor where appropriate and then an anecdote like the Guild Hall speech showed up in that form, and at times a quotation, although I generally do not like to throw out quotations in speeches. The greatest need is for some good, brief anecdotes along the lines that Jimmy Humes prepared prior to the campaign. I am sure that if a man with talent in this area puts his mind to it he will come up with some pretty good ideas that I will be able to use.

In this same connection, it is necessary for whoever is in charge of the schedule to keep the research people completely briefed well in advance of every possible occasion where I shall be asked to say a few words. People hang on every word a President utters and if at times instead of just beating the obvious to death in making an award or accepting one, etc. I can find an appropriate eloquent phrase which might stick in the public conscience, we can make some points.

I have emphasized this point in several other conversations and memoranda but I don't think anybody really realizes how important I think it is and how necessary and helpful it will be to my operation. Again, I suggest you talk to the research people and go out on a talent hunt for a man who might fit the bill. We haven't found him yet although each of our own staff from time to time does make a contribution which is helpful. Dick Moore, as a matter of fact, made the most contributions of this type during the campaign which I was able to use. He should be included in the group which discusses this problem. My guess is that a young, bright, intellectual type who would really love such an assignment and could learn to do it extremely well would be the type of individual to get.

With further regard to my schedule, somebody slipped in not having any suggested comments prepared for the Anaheim homecoming. In the future in every instance where I am expected to speak even for five minutes a few thoughts should be put in front of me even though I may not use them so that it will at least stir my own thinking.

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RN tape - 1/4/69

TO: Bob Haldeman
FROM: RN
SUBJECT: RN Schedule

One type of activity which should be dispensed with is doing film clips for payroll savings, bond drives which are to be used for small corporate meetings as distinguished from clips which will be used on national TV.

My general policy is that we should limit statements of this kind in any event even when they are on national TV. But under no circumstances should my time be used to film something like this for a small, select group, even if the cause is important. I don't care what the past procedure has been. In the future use Agnew or the Secretary of the Treasury or some other appropriate Cabinet officer.

I want a complete re-evaluation of all activities of this type and I do not want them in the future to be committed for me without my express approval. For years I have felt that the President has been over-burdened with this kind of activity and the time to make significant changes is right now. I want you and Ehrlichman to watch these things very carefully and wherever possible address them to Agnew or ~~something~~ somebody else.

RN tape - 1/4/69

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

SUBJECT: "Six Crises "

I would imagine that both the hard cover and paper back versions of "Six Crises" would probably have a renewed sale as a result of the election. Would you give me a report as to what my rights are with regard to both the hard cover and the paper back at this time. My recollection is that I own the full rights to both. Also, I would like a report as to what sales were made of the new version of the paper back since its issuance shortly before the Convention. Some good promotion, incidentally, here could be helpful. I imagine that the paper back distributors in the country immediately before the Inauguration in newsstands across the country could get a pretty good sale.

RN tape - 1/4/69

TO: Bob Haldeman

FROM: RN

I did not get an opportunity to mention Jeff Donfeld to Bud Wilkinson, but I am inclined to believe that he would fit in very well as an aide to Wilkinson in view of the kind of activities he will be engaged in.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

I have already suggested that you check with Don's wife with regard to my personal papers and mem~~o~~es and be sure they eventually reach either the Yorba Linda or Whittier repository. There is no hurry on this but I would like for you to give me a report of those things that are available so that I can determine whether or not they should go there or they should be kept within the family.

RN tape - 1/4/69

TO: Bob Haldeman
FROM: RN
SUBJECT: Campaign Finance Report

In reading the wire service stories on the finance reports filed by Stans and the Democrats I find the usual problem which always plagues us. That the Democrats appear to be spending far less because ~~of~~ the huge amounts the unions spend do not show up in their reports. I want you ^{to} get Klein and the others who should make a contribution in this area to set the record straight. Perhaps a memorandum should be written for those who may be going on television programs, and the word passed to key Congressmen, Senators, Governors or any others who might be called upon to answer questions on this subject.

Another problem which concerns me is the ~~danger of~~ failure of our Finance Committee to make its report on time. This shows the necessity for a hard-nosed, sophisticated person who serves as Counsel to the National Committee who will handle such matters on a proper basis in the future. I think this Counsel job is more important than some realize. As soon as we can get Scribner out of there let's get a really good man in his place -- one who is really bright enough and young enough but done well enough to do an effective job. This position cannot go to one of the hacks.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Haldeman

FROM: RN

The enclosed article from the January 2 Los Angeles Times is a pretty good analysis of Hickel's strengths and weaknesses.

Would you give a copy of this to Harlow and also to Mitchell. I again suggest that some effort should be made to put a good strong PR type who knows Washington with him at the earliest possible time. He can be an asset if he gets some good advice.

FIGHTING ALASKAN

Storm Front Follows
Hickel to Washington

BY STANFORD H. PATTON

SEATTLE — A storm front from Alaska named Walter Joseph Hickel will blow into Washington, D.C., this month to be the new secretary of interior.

He could well turn out to be the most controversial appointment in President-elect Nixon's Cabinet.

One thing for sure: the status quo in many parts of the big Interior Department is going to take a beating. Hickel, as governor of Alaska, has pummeled interior agencies ranging from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

But already, troublesome opposition is developing against Senate confirmation of Hickel. This includes forces in conservation, Indian organizations and the commercial fishing industry. It will come into the open when the Senate Interior Committee holds hearings on Hickel's appointment.

Expects to Win

But Hickel (who never entertains a negative thought) expects to win confirmation. He told a news conference in Anchorage the other day that he "anticipates no great difficulty."

Hickel, 49, is completing the first half of a four-year term as Alaska's second governor since statehood. He won that 1966 election by a margin of only 1,680 votes over the then-incumbent governor, Democrat William A. Egan.

But ever since taking

office, the impatient, often brusque governor has been performing as if it were a mandate.

He believes in making waves—and that the wave of the future for America is Alaska, with its treasure box of resources.

Hickel has fought with national and foreign leaders alike and yet has won increased federal attention for Alaska and has helped to weld an important economic union between Japan and the 49th state.

Some Alaskans are delighted with Hickel. Others despise him.

Walter J. Hickel is ener-

Patty, a Seattle Times reporter who served the first six months of 1968 on leave as Alaska state director of international fisheries, wrote this article for The Times.

getic, imaginative and enthusiastic.

He also can be arrogant, narrow and cold.

"Things don't just happen," he says. "Men make them happen."

Hickel, a Golden Gloves welterweight boxing champion back in his native Kansas, is a hard-punching fighter in public life.

Once, during a private conversation in the governor's office in Juneau, he said this about a powerful figure who had opposed one of his programs:

"That guy has a tough little s.o.b. on his back now I wouldn't want on mine—me."

Perhaps his hardness and single-mindedness can be traced in part to his

beginnings. Hickel was the son of a tenant farmer near Claflin, Kan., one of 10 children. Times were rugged. Hickel, still a teen-ager, struck out for California with the intention of going on to Australia.

However, he encountered passport and visa problems and decided instead to set a course for Alaska. He had only enough money for a steerage-class ticket on an Alaska-bound steamship.

Borrowed Fare

So, in October, 1940, Hickel stepped onto the pier at Seward, Alaska, with 37 cents in his pockets. He borrowed \$10 from a fellow traveler and took the train to Anchorage.

"I knew exactly what I was going to do, and I knew I was going to do it," he recalled later.

Hickel washed dishes in Anchorage's Richmond Cafe, put in a stint as a bartender, worked as a boiler-room helper for the Alaska Railroad, became a civilian inspector for the Air Force and then turned to carpentry.

Soon he was building and selling homes in Anchorage, first one and then several at a time. This was the start of the construction enterprise that now includes motels, housing developments, apartment houses, shopping centers and the posh 150-room Captain Cook Hotel in Anchorage.

Became Millionaire

Hickel, they say, was a millionaire by the time he decided to challenge Egan for the governor's job.

"There is a better way," was his campaign theme.

He would find mixed feelings about the "better way" today in Alaska. But Hickel, an action guy, does have many things in motion.

Hickel's first wife, Janice Cannon, died in Au-

Walter Hickel

with photo

gust, 1943, after a brief illness. They had one son.

In November, 1954, Hickel, married again, to Ermalee Strutz, daughter of a pioneer Anchorage family. She gave him five more sons.

Once Hickel is committed to a course, there is no turning back. He doesn't want to hear the reasons why he might be wise to reconsider or to proceed with caution.

Hickel's critics say he "shoots from the hip" too often.

Such as when he reached out last year to buy a \$7 million Scandinavian ferry and declared war on the restrictive Jones Act which prevents foreign-built ships from operating

Sear

PHONE BOOK ON

- *Boyle—Olympic and Soto 26
- *Buena Park 82
- *Canoga Park 88
- *Compton 53
- *Costa Mesa 54
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ASSETS OVER \$410 MILLION

between U.S. ports. The ferry operates primarily between Alaska and British Columbia. In buying the ferry, he also stepped hard on the sensitive toes of Premier W. A. C. Bennett of neighboring British Columbia.

Or when he began prodding the federal government to expand its Alaska Railroad into the vast, unpeopled Arctic.

Hickel can inspire incredible loyalty among those closest to him. But he also discards, without pity, those who work for him faithfully but fail to match his tempo and dreams.

"Wally Hickel is a man in a helluva hurry," one associate said.

"Wally Hickel hates to lose," another commented.

Delays irritate him. Criticism hurts and sometimes infuriates him. He is a dapper dresser who enjoys elegance, but can turn on the vocabulary of an Alaskan miner when the occasion is right.

More often than not, despite his impulsiveness and lack of tact, Hickel lands on his feet.

Switches to Nixon

Witness the recent presidential race: Hickel was an early supporter of New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller. But when Rockefeller withdrew from the contest, Hickel threw himself at full speed into Nixon's campaign.

He traveled hard for Nixon, appearing all over the country as a surrogate (stand-in) speaker for the then GOP nominee. Then

on Dec. 11 Nixon named Hickel as his choice for interior secretary.

As governor, Hickel has made some controversial appointments.

Probably the one that ruffles some Alaskans most was the naming of Thomas E. Kelly as state commissioner of natural resources. That department includes regulation of Alaska's booming oil industry.

At the time of his appointment, Kelly, 30, was general manager of Alaska operations for the Texas-based Halbouty Alaska Oil Co. He is a foster son of Michael T. Halbouty, a wealthy Texan who was one of the first independent oil-gas operators to recognize Alaska's oil-producing potential.

One Alaska newspaper said at the time that Kelly's selection was like "putting a fox in charge of the hen house."

Seen in Controversy

Hickel's blunt views put him in hot water soon after Nixon tapped him to be interior secretary.

The governor, who has carried on a running feud with the man he is slated to succeed, Stewart L. Udall, was asked what he would do about a Udall order temporarily preventing Alaska from acquiring the balance of more than 100 million acres of federal land allotted to it under the 1953 Statehood Act.

The order involves controversial land claims that have been filed by native groups—Eskimos, Indians and Aleuts. The claims

cover vast areas of Alaska, including mineral-rich territory, and that the issue is the most sensitive political question in Alaska.

"What Udall can do by executive order, I can undo," Hickel replied.

The Seattle chapter of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Arctic Slope Native Assn. in Alaska swiftly condemned Hickel for that position. Other native groups, which believe that Hickel wants a fair settlement of the claims, have adopted a wait-and-see stance. Hickel favors a fair settlement for the natives and maintains that the Udall land freeze has held back Alaska's economic development.

Conservation Foes

Hickel also quickly antagonized powerful conservation groups by announcing that he favored opening more federal land to the public for recreation. The conservationists now are wondering if a man dedicated to economic development and extraction of resources will be able to work for conservation, too.

Then early one morning recently at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, while he was returning to Alaska from Washington, D.C., Hickel was asked by reporters about a statement by Rep. Julia Butler Hansen (D-Wash.), who had expressed skepticism about Hickel's appointment.

"Who is Julia Butler Hansen?" Hickel replied.

Mrs. Hansen, a master of the legislative process, is

chairman of the interior subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. Hickel, if confirmed as interior secretary, will have to appear before Mrs. Hansen's subcommittee to defend his department's budget requests.

Hickel since has moderated and modified some of his public views. He said he even has apprised himself about the formidable Mrs. Hansen and is looking forward to meeting and working with her.

Alaskans Proud

Most Alaskans, whatever their personal feelings about Hickel, are proud to have an Alaskan in the Cabinet for the first time.

They also are mindful of some past interior secretaries, such as Franklin D. Roosevelt's Harold L. Ickes and Dwight D. Eisenhower's Douglas McKay, who they feel treated Alaska like a colonial field in territorial days.

Hickel, if he will learn the art of diplomacy and does not find the "system" in Washington, D.C., too confining, is in a position to do important things for Alaska—and the rest of the states he will be obliged to serve.

In speeches outside Alaska as governor, he has used the phrase "49 states and a country" to illustrate Alaska's unique problems and needs.

Now he will have to be an impartial secretary of the interior for all 50 states. This will not be easy.

Whatever happens, it won't be dull.

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ORDER

262-3111
827-3170
883-1261
537-0110
540-9199



January 4, 1969

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: RN

I think it would be very much appreciated if the members of the family and those who will be invited to the campaign staff gathering at the White House receive the usual White House engraved invitations. Will you see if these can be prepared and sent out? I know that all of them will have received invitations to the Inaugural, but this is something else again, and I know that everyone would like to have an invitation to the White House from the President.

As far as timing is concerned, I would like the family group to come in approximately one hour after the conclusion of the Parade, and for them to be present in the White House for approximately one hour. This I think will give us some time to get dressed for the Inaugural Balls. This will not be a cocktail party. We will serve tea and coffee and give them the White House tour. Those to be included will be my family, Pat's family and the Eisenhower family.

I have had some second thoughts with regard to the timing of the campaign staff gathering. I think it should be late in the afternoon -- probably around 6:30 -- and in this instance, I would give them a cocktail and let them wander around on the tour of both the upstairs and downstairs rooms. The event should be approximately one hour.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

I had a talk with Haldeman with regard to my own schedule after January 20. Presently, I am planning to get to the office fairly early and stay without a break until five o'clock. I am going to avoid lunches which take my time wherever possible. At 5 o'clock I will take off for a quick swim and possibly a rub down and will be available for receptions around 6:30.

For guidance in my schedule planning, if it is determined that a meal is necessary I think the best one to plan is breakfast. If, for example, we have a group of Congressmen who have to come in have them for breakfast at 8 o'clock and try to get them out of there by 9:30 at the very latest. Lunch takes two times as much time as breakfast and dinner takes three times as much time. Consequently, we will save time if we can schedule breakfasts.

I am not keen on having Congressmen and Senators and others in for cocktails. I know many of them like this, but I am not sure this is the best way to do business with them. Where at all possible the cocktail drill should be avoided. If one is scheduled, it should never be scheduled before 6:30. This will give me an hour for the meeting and will leave an hour before a formal dinner if we have one. As far as formal dinners are concerned, I want them to start around 8:30 rather than 8:00. This will reduce the amount of time I will have to be there.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

Buff Chandler wanted to be sure that Armond Hammer received an invitation to the Inauguration.

He is in London and the invitation should be sent to the Occidental Petroleum Company.

She says he was a major contributor.

RN tape - 1/4/69

TG Bob Haldeman
FROM: RN
SUBJECT: Reports to RN on His Action Requests

It will be my policy generally to send you copies of memoranda I send to Ehrlichman, Klein, Ziegler and others requesting some kind of action to be taken. I want you to assume the responsibility with regard to all such requests for action as well as with regard to such requests as come directly to you, to keep a file on them and to give me a regular running report as to what has happened on such requests.

There may be times when you or others may determine ~~that the action~~ that the action I have requested should not be taken. I will accept such decisions but I must know about them. By the same token when I expect something to be done I want to know when it has been done and if it has not been done I want to know the reasons why and what the prospects are for filling the request in the future.

There is nothing more important to my peace of mind than to know precisely on an up to the minute basis whether my decisions are being implemented and if not, why not.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Haldeman

FROM: RN

In order to avoid or mitigate the development of cliques on the White House staff I think you should not only have a regular brief meeting of the staff each morning, or perhaps twice a week, but in addition, that you should try to meet each of the assistants on a regular basis once a week; and that you also should meet with the whole research group once a week. I have already suggested to Ehrlichman a meeting with the PR group on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. That group would include Buchanan, Price and Safire, together with Ehrlichman and Garment. It might be wise too to include Ellsworth in this group and, of course, Klein on a regular basis. Ziegler should sit in for information purposes.

But apart from that, top White House staffers need to have a regular contact with you so that you may anticipate their needs and keep them from reaching me, if possible. This means that McCracken, Kissinger, Wilkinson, perhaps Moynihan, should have regular meetings with you.

I think that you ought to make it a practice to call the Cabinet officers, except for the top four (Rogers, Laird, Kennedy and Mitchell), on a somewhat regular basis just to see if they have any problems that you can take care of without them coming up to me.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: RN
RE: Expected Attacks by Liberal Democrats

Everybody agrees that the liberal Democrats, along with the more leftish elements of the press and the intellectual community, will be hammering us from the beginning, with very little, if any, honeymoon.

We can turn this on them if we have the intelligence to do so. One point that should be made is to hit hard on RN's high responsibility during the campaign and particularly since the period of the bombing halt, and on foreign policy generally during the years he was out of office. Someone immediately should be prepared with this line of defense and also be prepared to attack our critics in the House and Senate when they begin to take off. Particularly whenever their criticism is in the foreign policy area. The Republican National Chairman, backed up by some statements by Herb Klein, should be the method of both defending and attacking.

In that connection, while I want Ziegler to stay out of any of these partisan battles, Klein can get into them, since he is one step removed from the White House.

January 4, 1969 - RN Tape

TO: JOHN EHRLICHMAN
FROM: RN
RE: SUMMER RESIDENCE

I have decided against having the Marine Corps build a summer residence for the President at Camp Pendleton.

There are two options which I would like explored. The first is to find some separately isolated house that I could buy personally somewhere below Laguna and above Oceanside. In that way we could use the Marine Corps Air Base for a landing field and have rather quick access to the property.

On reflection, while I would like to have this house on the beach I realize that privacy in such a crowded area might be very difficult. If one could be found within 5 or 10 minutes driving time from a good beach this might serve the purpose. What I would suggest is that the Marine Corps make available a good swimming beach on their property and then I purchase a house which is not too far away from it.

A second possibility -- which probably would present insurmountable legal problems -- would be for me to build a modest residence upon Marine Corps property and on their beach and then give the house to the government.

My major concern is the unfavorable publicity that might accrue if we allow a very expensive residence to be constructed by the Marine Corps. The armed services, ^{are} wasting money, on a very extravagant basis around the world, and I am going to urge Laird to cut into this waste on a massive basis. I can't do that on the one hand and then have the Marine Corps build a residence for me at the same time.

The handling of Key Biscayne I think has been proper up to this point. I am putting out all of the money to buy the property and, of course, will pay for the redecoration, etc. All that the government will provide is the helicopter pad and a place to land a boat. Both of these actions in the long run save money because of the need for additional security in the event that I used a public boat landing or a helicopter pad which was not adjacent to the residence.

For purposes of PR you ought to get the exact figures on how much money the government has invested in the facilities at the LBJ ranch. I think landing strip, roads and other buildings they have constructed should amount to something near three million dollars. There is also the immense amount of office space he has in Austin. I want you to get me a complete run-down on what has been spent for Johnson and have this available for Klein and others in the event that any columnists are raising questions about the very modest amounts that are being spent for me.

In this connection, as you probably are aware, Eisenhower's El Dorado house was given to him by friends and the same is true of the place that was made available to him at Augusta.

Let's just be sure that since I am being extremely careful to avoid milking the public treasury that we get the proper credit or at least avoid discredit.

As far as the residence in California is concerned, I would be willing to put up \$150,000 to \$200,000. It would be my plan to sell the property which I own on Whittier Boulevard in which my mother lived and to reinvest that into this property. What is probably needed here is a very discreet personal friend who will roam around that area and find a good place which we can purchase near the Marine beach property. What we might find is that we should take a house that may have the basic requirements as far as plumbing, etc. are concerned which might require remodeling. From a political standpoint I am very anxious to work out a deal on this as soon as we can find the right property. I don't like the idea of being a Florida resident and while we will allow this situation to go on for about a year because of various considerations, at an appropriate time I think the California residence will become my domicile for all purposes, tax and otherwise.

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January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: RN
SUBJECT: Television Man

I believe we still need a full-time television man who will not only handle special events for which we already have a pretty good system, but even more important, who will be along on all trips and at the White House to handle the many instances when news shots may be taken.

For example, at the Rose Bowl we had an audience of approximately 60 million. The camera shot may have been only one or two minutes, but while our advance men and the Rose Bowl people had done an excellent job in setting up the arrangements for my physical movements, I had no one who had the slightest idea as to when the television shot might be taken and how we could make the most out of it.

What is really needed here is an imaginative, not an abrasive type, who can keep me informed as to when television shots are likely to be taken. And then who can make some suggestions as to how we can get the greatest advantage out of them. I think we were deficient in this respect somewhat even during the campaign where we had superb people for all the special events, but no one who handled the getting on and off airplanes and the many other casual shots which probably make the news shows more than the formal things we did. Would you give some thought to this problem and give me a recommendation.

My guess is that a television news producer might be what we are looking for here.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Haldeman

FROM: RN

I am not going to assume any responsibility for preparing the bread and butter letters to the head of the Rose Bowl and whoever was responsible for the Anaheim rally -- or for any of the other events where such letters will be expected from me. This is a good test of our general staff. I want letters prepared for my signature and put on my desk sometime this next week.

The number of letters of this type that we can now write will have to be sharply curtailed. If, for example, letters are to go to the security types just let me see a form and I will have them signed by auto pen. On the other hand, Asa Call, who put on the luncheon for Finch, should have a personal letter prepared for my signature.

Will you assign somebody to this job and test them out until we find the right person to assume this responsibility in the future?

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

I spoke to Bud Wilkinson ^{sel} with regard to his doing the Game of the Week. He is willing to give it up if we think that is best.

My own view -- one that Finch shares -- is that keeping Bud before the people as a television sports personality would be in our interest. I think that if you could put him on as a consultant on a five-day-a-week basis, this would answer any problem of others who might want to continue activities other than their governmental job.

He will be talking with you about it, and as far as I am concerned, whatever the two of you work out will be alright with me.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Haldeman
FROM: RN

See if someone on the staff can prepare a note of condolence to the Garland children. I think there may be only two. If there are only two, write a note to each. Possibly the best thing to do is to write to the oldest. But I would like to have someone prepare this note, since this is a good way to test the staff and see if we have somebody who can do this.

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: RMW

FROM: RN

Please send in a picture of Pat and me for autographing to the Asa Calls. Or, if you have one of the good family pictures in color send one in to me for that purpose.

I will autograph it myself.

File RN signature

what type
equipment does
W.P. have?
also do we own the
auto pen we now
have (the machine,
I mean)

January 4, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: RMW
FROM: RN
cc: Bob Haldeman

In the future on my letters where I indicate they should be signed "Richard Nixon" or "Dick Nixon" or "Dick" I think it would be helpful to have an auto-pen signature for each one of these three forms. This will save me an enormous amount of time.

→ there is one but perhaps a good, careful signature could would be helpful.

The procedure will be that no letter will be signed by the auto pen unless I have seen it or approved the form. After January 20 I will either sign all mail personally or approve it for auto pen signature.

The major problem, of course, will involve autographed pictures. I think we have to keep these to a minimum and I will welcome any suggestions as to how you feel that in this case an auto pen might be used.

rmw
try a few
could have name printed &
or typed on picture
get auto pen "with
best wishes"
another one
R-N