

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
White House Special Files Collection
Folder List

<u>Box Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>	<u>Document Date</u>	<u>Document Type</u>	<u>Document Description</u>
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Ehrlichman regarding the Inaugural theme. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Ehrlichman and Haldeman RE: election analysis. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Ehrlichman RE: Republican performance in 1968. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Ehrlichman asking about a potential 200th Anniversary theme in 1976. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Bob Haldeman RE: Chuck Lichtenstein. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Haldeman RE: working telephone calls into his daily schedule. 1 pg.

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1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Ehrlichman regarding how to expand his time on television. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Ehrlichman RE: potential White House historian. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from RN to Haldeman RE: report on the organization of the government. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Copy of a memo from Rose Mary Woods to RN, Peter Flanigan, and Bill Rogers. The memo regards Ambassador Ackley and the Italians. 1 pg.
1	38	01/09/1969	Memo	Memo from Rose Mary Woods to RN and Bill Rogers regarding meeting between Elmer Bobst and James Donovan. Handwritten note added by unknown. 1 pg.
1	38	01/06/1969	Memo	Memo from Elmer Bobst to RN RE: hijacking. 3 pgs.

January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

With regard to the Inaugural theme, I don't know how much you are trying to play it, but I have a feeling that "Forward Together" is too gimmicky. Why don't you see whether Price, Garment, Safire et. al. can come up with something better as an Administration theme. (I realize, of course, that as far as the Inauguration itself is concerned, we can do nothing about it.)

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January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRLICHMAN and HALDEMAN

FROM: RN

This is not for you to write yourself but simply to take charge of and to find other people to do the work. I think an election analysis should be made answering these questions:

- 1) What was the effect of RN's not debating?
- 2) What was the effect of the HHH winner psychology which was built up by the press?
- 3) How much did Agnew hurt us?
- 4) What about the attacks on RN; how effective were they?
- 5) What about the anti statements in press and TV which reached a crescendo just before we left for Florida for our last swing, two and one-half weeks before the election?

What I am really trying to get at here is to get someone to study the last campaign in an objective way and to find out what happened. We know the bomb pause had a massive effect in shifting votes -- Lou Harris is our best evidence on that score, according to Teddy White. On the other hand, again I think because of the total inadquacey of our staff in analyzing the content and pictorial slant, we do not really know what happened to voter sentiments. Perhaps what we need is an analysis of the TV coverage. How about Kevin Phillips as one of serveral to work on this.

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January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

The Safire analysis of the 1968 Election was a very good start. Two points that were not adequately covered were these:

1) The incredible weakness of the Republican Party. The party, based on Gallup's report, was even weaker in 1968 than it was in 1960 with only 27% of the people, as I recall, were willing to admit they were Republicans. In this connection, of course, it should be pointed out how Nixon could not have won without expanding the base of the Republican party and getting millions of Independent and Democratic voters.

The other aspect of the Safire report that could be expanded upon is the effect of the Wallace vote -- the fact that he ended up by cutting into RN far more than HHH.

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January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

I want a couple of our bright PR types to spend some time now on what the 200th Anniversary theme in 1976 will be. I think that we should set the machinery in motion now with the appointment of a National Citizens Committee to set up the celebration for the 200th Anniversary. As you know if an exhibition is to be held in Philadelphia, the city of Philadelphia will have to start planning now. The Committee, of course, would have to be appointed at least five, six or seven years before the date. We can make a lot of mileage out of making this appointment and the obvious political benefits, I am sure, are there for everyone to see.

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January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Haldeman

FROM: RN

Ray Moley urged that Bob Finch find a place for Chuck Lichtenstein.

You can consider this, having in mind the fact that Bob may need three or four very loyal people close in who can help him on the research side.

I do not know whether he would consider Chuck Lichtenstein thus qualified, but Moley has a very high regard for him.

January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: HALDEMAN

FROM: RN

In setting up my daily schedule, one hour per day should be reserved for making telephone calls, receiving people who are not necessarily on the must list but simply to reduce the huge number of requests we will have pending, and to allow me time to do some of my personal correspondence -- initiating letters to major friends and political supporters as well as leaders abroad. This time should be scheduled by the staff or at least suggestions should be made as to how it should be scheduled.

For example, I should see each day a list of those telephone calls that might be made, of people who might be seen within fifteen minutes and some letters that might require my personal attention. I will make the decision as to how the hour will be finally used, of course.

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January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman
FROM: RN

I again come back to one of my constant themes -- I think Klein and Ziegler are still concentrating too much on the writing press and not enough on the television press. As I have emphasized, we have to create a "New Establishment." I want you to follow up on this personally to see that they both start cultivating the TV reporters, watching what they report, commenting upon them favorably when they say anything favorable etc.

I also am still waiting for a report as to the auditing procedure for the network shows and for the major independent stations in local markets. I still get back to my fundamental theme. Herb and Ron continue to send me from time to time a column or a cartoon. I have only once since the election had anyone on this staff give me a report on television coverage of my activities. This is a major oversight on our part; it is one of which we were constantly guilty during the campaign and which I remedied only during the last two and one-half weeks due to off-hand remarks I heard from people I met as I would go up and down the fence. I want an all-out program immediately developed to handle this problem with a report to me before January 20th.

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January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

What progress have we made on the White House historian. I think getting a capable man in this field is essential and he must be there at the beginning. What about this fellow May from Harvard? You might talk to Kissinger on this point. Obviously, the man above everything else must be not only a good writer (many will fill that bill) but above everything else, loyal to RN.

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January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: HALDEMAN

FROM: RN

Approximately two weeks after January 20, I want brought to my attention again the Heineman, Ash and RN Task Force Reports on organization of the government as well as Kissinger's reports on the organization of NSC and the Lindsay report on organization.

At that time, I want to sit back and take a cool, objective look at what they have recommended and see how we measure up.

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January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: *(RN/)* Peter Flanigan
FROM: RMW
cc: Bill Rogers

See
Elmer Bobst asked me to pass along the word that Ambassador Ackley is considered by the Italians to be one of the best Ambassadors they have had. Apparently, he goes around visiting the small towns and speaks Italian fluently. Elmer's source for this is Baron Zarelli.

Also, Elmer recommends John Lodge highly for an Ambassadorship because of his experience and ability to speak three or four languages.

January 9, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: ✓ RN/ Bill Rogers

FROM: RMW

Elmer Bobst *Spd.* had lunch with James Donovan on

Tuesday, January 7, and Donovan was greatly interested in Elmer's idea which is outlined in the attached memo.

He would like to go as a private citizen without any backing of State. He would, however, like to have a letter from John Mitchell along the lines that the bearer of this letter, James Donovan, is visiting Cuba for humanitarian purposes. His visit is with the knowledge of the State Department and the President of the United States, but without any instructions whatsoever.

Elmer says Donovan would talk to the lady who was in the hills with Castro and is now Secretary of the Parliament. (Donovan claims she is not Communist.) Also, he would talk with his doctor as he is anti-communist and goes everywhere Castro goes. He thinks these two people have more influence on him than anybody else.

January 6, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: RN
FROM: Elmer Bobst
RE: Hijacking

Idea: Castro would have to give us his aid - his honest aid.

If Castro wants to, every plane that goes to Cuba - the hijacker can be apprehended and taken into custody and returned with an arrangement, given over to the FBI or police.

Obviously, if this were done we could throw the book at the offender because this is really piracy and I believe it can be anything up to death.

I have a very intimate acquaintanceship with James Donovan, who has been residing in Spring Lake for a number of years during the summer time and also weekends during the winter. I have had a good many conversations with him and through Len Sheeley, former Surgeon-General who is now associated with us, we took an important part in the pharmaceutical contributions which were essential together with food in carrying out the agreement with Castro. Fact is Sheeley became very friendly with Castro and Castro took him all over the Island and to his home, etc.

In my conversations with Jim Donovan, he has told me about his affairs not only with Castro but also in Russia, his procedures in having our aviator (Powers) who was shot down in a flight over some

country -- how he went about getting him free and the deal that he made. He also gave me the details of his getting the release of the very important Russian spy we were holding - I believe for a 20 or 30 year term for espionage - and exchanging him for either 2 or 3 of our American spies that our State Department wanted back. I find him to be a very clever, astute lawyer who has received many, many degrees and awards during his legal life. He is now the President of Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.

Last summer I approached him with the thought that he might influence Castro to entertain at least in part friendly relations with our country. I asked him pointblank whether he still had any connections with Castro and whether his friendly relationships still existed. His reply was "My relations are very very friendly." He said "I do believe that what you have in mind could be brought about."

In view of my idea of having the cooperation of Castro in the apprehension of these hijackers, I naturally turned to the thought of our using Mr. Donovan to do the job. Bill Rogers called me on the telephone a couple of days ago and during the course of our conversation I told him about my idea. He said, "I think it is a good idea. I do not know whether it will work but I think you ought to proceed to find out what Mr. Donovan might think of the idea. However, do not mention that you have discussed the matter with me."

I decided shortly after my talk with Bill to contact Mr. Donovan whom I found was convalescing from the flu in his Spring Lake home. I, of course, did not mention that I had discussed my idea with Mr. Rogers. Mr. Donovan is of the opinion that he could influence Castro to cooperate fully in putting an end to the piracy of the air. He said

"people as a rule, even in high places, under-rate Castro's mentality and particularly his knowledge of law. I can guarantee that he is well versed in international law and I do not believe that he is feeling too good about this hijacking problem."

This memorandum is purely to have your advice as to what I have in mind. I have an appointment with Mr. Donovan at 12 noon on Tuesday, January 7th. I have knowledge that the present Administration has called on Mr. Donovan's services once or twice during the past year. This was done through the State Department. Mr. Donovan has already stated that he felt that my idea was absolutely feasible in every respect. If at our meeting he comes up with some definitive plan of operation I will then communicate with Bill Rogers and from then on Mr. Donovan -- if you and Mr. Rogers see fit -- will operate through the State Department.

Going a little bit further along the line, Mr. Donovan feels that there is a possibility of developing a fairly close friendly relationship with Cuba at this time. He also stated that a surprising number of heads of our important industries have shown a great interest in the possibility of starting again in Cuba. So, I feel that if any success comes out of this idea that it would be a great feather in the cap of the new Administration.