

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
White House Special Files Collection
Folder List

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32	1	n.d.	Memo	Handwritten note: RN Memos. 1 pg.
32	1	01/16/1969	Memo	Memo from RN to John Ehrlichman. 1 pg.
32	1	01/23/1969	Memo	Memo from The President to Don Hughes. 1 pg.
32	1	n.d.	Memo	Handwritten note: RN memos to E. 1 pg.
32	1	01/23/1969	Memo	Memo from The President to John Ehrlichman. 1 pg.
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32	1	01/16/1969	Memo	Memo from RN to RMW cc: Ehrlichman. 1 pg.
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32	1	01/15/1969	Memo	Memo from RN to John Ehrlichman. 2 pgs.
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RN

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January 16, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: RN

In considering appointments to prestige committees which do not require full time service, be sure that John Johnson, the publisher of EBONY, is high on the list. Incidentally, he also could be considered for a top ambassadorial post or a high level full time position if he would consider it.

Flanigan

✓ HRH

Just as a further reminder to you - I have invited Jimmy Byrnes to the White House for his birthday which I think is sometime in May. This should be a formal dinner at night and will give us an opportunity to have good representation from the South - some high level Democratic representation - as well as some of our people from the VIP list.

LUCY

CHAPIN

Along the same lines, since this is the 10th anniversary of my trip to Russia we will have a reception for those who are members of the "Kitchen Cabinet." I have included this in a previous memorandum but wanted to put it in as a reminder now so that it could be worked into our schedule. The "Kitchen Cabinet" date can be anytime during the period I was in Russia which gives us about two weeks to play with in late June and early July.

LUCY

CHAPIN

January 23, 1969

TO: Don Hughes
FROM: The President

In the White House tour yesterday some very interesting descriptions were given of the rooms by the man who took us around. This was not West but the younger fellow.

I would like for you to ask him to prepare for me, not at too great length, (perhaps one paragraph each) the salient facts about each room that he showed me on the first and the second floor. What I want is the history of the room. For example, the fact that the State Dining Room was, up until the War of 1812, used as the office of the President, and any other colorful facts that he thinks might be pertinent.

Tell him to use his judgment as to how much material to include. I do not want a whole book because I will not have time to read it.

PN

memos

to

E

January 23, 1969

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: The President

Teddy White told me that his brother was the
head of ESA.

This may be of some interest to you in thinking
of the assignment you were considering for Ed Nixon.

January 16, 1969

MEMORANDUM

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January 16, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: RN

In reading over the campaign speeches, I thought one of the better ones was "The Volunteer Way." One suggestion which was advanced in it was that I would set up some new rewards for public service. I want to follow through on this and would like a recommendation from Garment, Safire, et al, as to what would be an appropriate award.

The medal for Freedom which Kennedy set up and which has not been used by Johnson, I think related only to foreign policy achievements. In any event, I think we ought to have a different kind of award for this kind of activity.

On a related subject, you will recall Mrs. Nixon has expressed an interest in providing some leadership to volunteer activities among women. I think Tricia also has some interest in this direction. Will you give me a report within a week or so after the 20th as to what our options might be. In Tricia's case the Smithsonian idea appeals to me. Also - particularly the one where she might work in the area which has to do with the gowns of First Ladies, and, the history of the White House, etc. However, I want to emphasize that I think you might be looking into a number of different things as I think she would be interested in case you have other ideas.

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January 16, 1969

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January 16, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: RMW
cc: Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

I think the relatives who attend the affair on the 20th as well as the campaign staff will be there on the 21st would treasure White House invitations. As we have previously agreed it is not possible to get out such invitations prior to the affairs. If it can be worked out, I would like for invitations to be prepared for both groups and mailed to them with a memo from RMW indicating that we were unable to get the invitations delivered before the Inauguration and RN thought they might like to have one for a souvenir. It would be the usual invitation form with the name of the invitee written in just as they do it for other state occasions. See if this can be worked out and, if so, follow up on it.

January 16, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

As I have already indicated, I believe that if it is logistically possible champagne might be served to the campaign staff at the Tuesday morning affair. If you and others involved conclude we should not do so then I think we should at least have coffee for those who attend although if the number gets up to 300 or 400 this may present a problem.

As far as the family group is concerned on Monday night, I think we should definitely have a buffet of sandwiches set up in the dining room. It has occurred to me that this is probably the best time for all of them to get a bite to eat.

January 15, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: RN

I want you to read the Moynihan memorandum on the District of Columbia and give recommendations as to what action we should take on each of the items. Obviously a discussion both with John Mitchell and Moynihan in preparing such recommendations would be in order. What, for example, we do about the reorganization plan? The appointments to the City Council and other items will be on our desk immediately after January 20. The Congressional representation recommendation is one I would accept. Rebuilding the city with ~~ex~~ black ownership as recommended in Section 5, might provide a good test tube experiment for some of our ideas on black capital.

The District of Columbia has always been an orphan as far as proper government is concerned due in some part to the fact that the committees in Congress in Congress are the lowest on the totem pole and get pretty poor people on them as a result.

On the other hand, in terms of the "image" of an Administration, nothing we do in any city across the country will have more impact than what we do in the District of Columbia. Not only the Washington papers - the Post and the Star and Daily News will write about what happens there but also the Washington correspondents for other papers who live in the Washington area will either be impressed or critical of what we do.

In other words, while I have always felt that the District was a pretty hopeless problem, it seems to me that this is one area where we can't help but improve on what our predecessors have done. Moynihan seems to have a very good feel for it and I urge that his recommendations not be rejected without proper consideration. The tendency is to simply go along with things as they are - to patch over the problems. What I am trying to convey is a sense of real urgency and interest on my part. I would like to have the best District of Columbia program -- one that I could present in a special message to the Congress -- ready within 30 to 60 days after the Inaugural.

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January 15, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

In talking with the PR and Research groups you might indicate one effective way to get the come-back story told would be to suggest a book or a major article entitled "The Great Come-backs in American Political History," or if a broader scope is desired -- "The Great Political Come-backs." Limit it to major political figures, of course.

This could make a very exciting book or article if we could get somebody of real stature to undertake it.

January 15, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: RN

In the memento department - I note that I have received a hundred or so "Mr. President" golf balls for Christmas.

I would suggest that you see if Don Carnevale could find an inexpensive way to mount a ball on a plaque and then, with an appropriate inscription, I would give it to people who come in who happen to be golfers. For example, the inscription might be "To be used only for a hole-n-one with best wishes from Richard Nixon."

You will remember the golf ball that I have in my office downtown - I don't recall that it was mounted in such a way that it would be useful in this case but check it out and work something inexpensive out if you think it is advisable.

HRH

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

For the receptions for the family, the campaign staff and old friends, I want the procedure to be different from what we have previously discussed. I think it will mean a great deal more to all present if an entry is made just as it is at White House social functions for the diplomatic corps, for Congress and other guests. Have the guests all arrive at a certain time. Approximately fifteen minutes later, the Marine Band will strike up some kind of music. Check with them to see if it is traditional to play "Hail to the Chief" at this time. We then come to the door and the aides announce, "The President of the United States and Mrs. Nixon."

In the case of the old friends reception, we will then stand in line while all of them come through the line to shake hands. In the case of the family, we will then simply start walking around and shaking hands with them, and in the case of the staff, we will walk to the head of the room where I will make a few remarks.

#

HRH

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

One luncheon function or informal evening function which I would like to have scheduled is for some of the old-timers in the Washington Press Corps who are retiring, or have retired, in the last two or three years. Arthur Krock, Walter Trohan, Willard Edwards, Ted Lewis, Bill Henry (I don't think he is retired, but he will be doing so shortly) Gould Lincoln and John Cummings of the Philadelphia Inquirer are in this number. You might check with Klein to see if he has a few other names in this league who might be included. The Dinner ^{or lunch} would be stag; the timing for it would be sometime within the first 60 days.

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HRH

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

One of the balls that seems to be dropping between the stools is the request I have put in ten or fifteen times with regard to letters to those who write good columns, make good commentaries or give us a good cartoon. We simply have to get this out of Klein's hands and into the hands of somebody who follows up on things. Cartoonists particularly deserve a note now and then since we will be requesting their originals. We have very few friends in this group (Carl Blumenthal of the Herald Express and Don Hesse of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat being among them) and we should try to cultivate them.

#

January 13, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: RN

Mr. and Mrs. J. Norton Kidder, 18 Brooks Street,
Winchester, Massachusetts, should be on the guest list for the
White House.

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

The following should be put on the White House
guest list:

Walter Thayer
Room 4600, Time & Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York, New York 10020

Major General and Mrs. Wilton B. Persons
43 Royal Palm Drive
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Mr. R. W. Woodruff
P. O. Box 1734
Atlanta, Georgia (in the event he made a generous
contribution)

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Cordiner
155 Bayview Drive, Belleair
Clearwater, Florida 33516

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Moley (for a White House dinner)
444 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Raymond Moley and Walter Lipmann should be on the
list for the older people who are retiring.

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

Lyman Brownfield should be on the list
for an appointment at a later time to one of the special
committees.

I realize he has been difficult, but at least
he tried to contribute to the best of his ability.

Lyman Brownfield
Brownfield, Kosydar & Yearling
88 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614/221-5834

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

I am enclosing a file of letters which Billy Graham passed on to me Sunday.

He said, incidentally, that he had received over 1200 letters since the election from people who asked him to intercede with me with regard to jobs, their ideas, etc.

Mrs. Shoemaker is Senator Alex Smith's daughter. I do not recall her and do not know whether she is qualified for what she suggests she might do, but perhaps she might be worth a further check by the Wilkinson group or some other group.

You can look over the other letters to see what ideas, if any, are worth considering.

Perhaps you have a reaction to the suggestion from the Religious Editor of the Miami Herald. I don't know whether Billy responded to the letter, and I don't know further what, if any, response we should give. Follow up in any way you think is appropriate.

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

I would like for you to check with John Alexander to get a list from him, which I have asked for, of some of our top supporters and clients who might deserve a White House invitation and who might be included when we are naming people to Presidential Commissions of the honorary type.

I am sure he will not make the list too burdensome and over a period of time I would like to include some of these people.

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

When I saw Lodge in Florida he suggested that the Medal of Freedom, which had been initiated by Kennedy and apparently not utilized by Johnson, be awarded on appropriate occasions by the new Administration.

Would you make a check on this and give me a recommendation.

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

Stuart List should be on the list for a White House dinner -- not a priority, but at a later time.

He has just retired as Publisher of the Chicago American, 445 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

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.)

#

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.

#

January 8, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: RN

In thinking about my schedule after January 20 I want a time set aside each day, where possible, for making telephone calls other than those which must be returned.

An appropriate list should be prepared for this drill.

In addition, I have already spoken to someone on the staff with regard to initiating the practice of writing a few letters each week to friends across the country where doing so might be helpful to our future plans.

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

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 11, 1969

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

Would you be sure that Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Persons are on the Inaugural list and that they are included in one of our early White House dinners.

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January 11, 1969

MEMORANDUM

TO: EHRlichman

FROM: RN

With regard to protocol at White House dinners, I have decided that any dinner in the evening will be black tie, even where it is stag. Where women are present, the dinners will always be white tie. Business suit will be appropriate only for luncheons or afternoon receptions.

#

January 10, 1969

TO: EHRlichman
FROM: RN

General Eisenhower called me tonight and said that, while he was not going to put pressure on, that Bill Marriott had been bugging him for me to go to the Gala. Marriott said that once it was announced that I was not going to be there that the ticket sale, which would bring in a lot of money, dropped off substantially.

I personally think that we ought to avoid this event but I would be interested to see if you have any second thoughts on it. Mrs. Nixon, of course, will be in Washington on Saturday. I don't know whether it would be appropriate for her to go without me. I don't think, incidentally, that she would do so, even if we decided that it might be a good idea! Let me have your thoughts on this as soon as possible.

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