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<td>Memo</td>
<td>To RN, from Mildren Younger. Outline of some of Younger's visits, particularly with Eck Hiestand and Al Bell. 3 pages.</td>
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July 30, 1962

Mildred Younger

Hiestand and Birch Society

While in Washington, I went to see Eck Hiestand. He is doing a poll of his District on the Birch issue which poll he wants kept off the record. I told him that while I was working for you, I was in no way speaking for you and that absolutely nothing I had to say was your opinion or suggestion. He said, "I love Dick Nixon -- I'm going to keep his picture on my wall regardless of what happens." I said that I, personally, would consider his defeat a great blow to the Republican Party, as well as to his District and that I felt something must be done to correct the situation over the Birch Society. He said that he agreed. He said that he wished you had not gone quite so far on the Birch Society, and I said that you, obviously, could not be expected to back down. He agreed with that.

I said that I had an idea that might single him out so that you and he could run amiably on the same ticket. He said, "What about Johnny (Rousselot)?" I said that was his problem and that I felt Eck should stand alone on this one. I suggested that he write an open letter -- making it available to the press -- to Robert Welch citing time, circumstances and actual remarks made by Welch questioning the loyalty of General Eisenhower and John Foster Dulles, and asking Welch to substantiate the statements, or offering the alternative that he (Hiestand) would otherwise have to resign from the Society. He said, "But some of the quotations are untrue." I said, "Then make it 'alleged' statements." He was concerned about the press not giving Welch fair and adequate coverage for his reply -- which he was sure would be lengthy. I said that the handling of Welch's reply was Welch's problem -- not Hiestand's -- and that Hiestand must concern himself only with the original brief
and pointed letter. He was very much interested in the idea. He was fearful that he would not get fair treatment from the L.A. TIMES, and I pointed out that handling it back there he could release it to Bob Hartmann, whom he considers to be fair. He said such a letter would also help him with Dave Hayler at the CITIZEN NEWS.

Hiestand said that he was considering asking for a letter of endorsement from Eisenhower that could be used as a campaign document. I said that I did not believe that would necessarily serve the same purpose; that I felt it was up to Hiestand to take the first step in order to clarify the campaigning situation in California.

He seemed pleased with the idea and took rather comprehensive notes.

Incidentally, Eck told me his wife is quite ill and he is very much upset about it. It is a lung condition from which she cannot be expected to recover. He is keeping her condition quiet.

I also talked at some length with Al Bell, whom, I gather, is in considerable difficulty with the rest of the Delegation over the very aggressive activities of his Administrative Assistant, Dick Blades. Al does not seem to be aware of this. Although the Delegation will theoretically be uncommitted on the State Central Committee Chairmanship, both Hiestand and Bell privately committed themselves to Weinberger. I suggested to Bell that any other course of action might well be construed as anti-Semitic, feeling that he may not be making up his own mind on such matters, and that he needed some arguments of his own. He asked about Vice Chairman and I said I had heard the name of Dr. Parkinson. He said, "If that's Nixon's candidate, I'm for him." I said I didn't know whether or not you had a candidate.

I think the only problem with Bell is being sure that he, personally, knows the score. Blades is using him and the Delegation is so afraid of Blades' intemperate
activities that it is excluding Bell. The Delegation feels that Bell tells Blades everything -- and that serious leaks result.

* * * * *

Hugh and Marian Scott joined us for a week-end in New York (where we had a delightful time) and asked to be remembered to you.

* * *

I spent a good deal of time both with Tom Kuchel and his aide, Steve Horn. There is no doubt that they intend to "go it alone" insofar as possible.

I feel that anything that can be done to stimulate Eck Hiestand to immediate action should be done. He is certainly amenable to suggestion at this point, but will defend the Birch Society stoutly and Welch to a lesser degree.
Following are the excerpts from the transcription of RN's statements on the Jack Paar Show of Thursday, February 8, 1962, which relate to the John Birch Society:

PAAR: Mr. Nixon, would you make in your own words, if you wish, a statement on the John Birch Society? Yesterday ---

NIXON: You see what I said. I wouldn't have done any good to suggest anything.

PAAR: Yesterday the President with great magnanimity, I thought, he was asked the question did the John Birch Society rightly belong only to the Republican Party and he said -- I think I'm quite correct in saying he said President Eisenhower had spoken out as vociferously against this extreme right group as he had and he did not think it belonged to any one party. That's what our President said yesterday.

Would you just comment any way you wish on it?

NIXON: I'll be very glad to. I'm very glad that Sen. Kennedy and now President Kennedy has taken this position -- and I didn't mean that to sound in any derogatory sense because since you mentioned debates I was taking myself back to the time when I did call him Senator, as you well understand.

But as far as my own position is concerned it is one that I took long before, ten months ago in a letter I wrote to the Los Angeles Times. I went on record unequivocally not only with regard to the John Birch Society but with regard to all organizations which in the name of fighting communism advocate and use means which violate American principles.

As far as the John Birch Society is concerned, I want to make it absolutely clear that I do not believe there is any place for a Candidate, and I can speak only for my Party in this instance as President Kennedy spoke for his, that there is no place for a Candidate on the Republican ticket who seeks or accepts the support of an organization whose acknowledged leader says or has claimed or is on record as saying and claiming that President Eisenhower and John Foster Dulles were communists or supporters of the communists. And this is what Mr. Welch, who is the head of the John Birch Society is on record as having said. He's not repudiated this statement, he has not withdrawn it and I believe that Candidates of both political parties, including the Democratic Candidate in Texas who happens to be a member of the John Birch Society, and any Republican Candidate should make it clear that they do not want the support of that kind of an organization who has that kind of a leader.
Now I want to go a little further. We not only have the John Birch Society. You have another group of this type called the Minute Men. I understand you've discussed them on your show.

PAAR: Yes I have, sir.

NIXON: There have been others of similar types. And I want to point out what is really wrong with this kind of organization. We must not make the mistake of thinking that what is wrong with the John Birch Society or the Minute Men or any other so-called patriotic group is that they are extreme or that they are radical.

One thing we must remember, that in America the right to be extreme, the right to be radical is just as indigenous as corn is to Iowa. What is wrong is to advocate a point of view in a way that you use totalitarian methods.

In other words, where you use the very means that the communists themselves would use to impose their system on this country. Because when you say I will use any means to an end, lying for example, about men like Eisenhower and Dulles, when you use any means to an end the inevitable result throughout history is that the means becomes the end and that is why it is very important that we have an unequivocal statement made in this respect.

Another point that I would make very briefly is this. I can speak with some feeling about communism. I'm not a Johnny-come-lately in this field. I learned about the dangers of communism before some of the present day experts even knew that it existed, back in 1947 and 1948 when I conducted the investigation of the Alger Hiss case, which is the first section of this book, incidentally, as you were pointing out.

And I know from experience that in fighting the communists in this country, as they must be fought and as they should be fought, one of the things that is most essential is that you have every regard for the use of American principles in fighting them. You must not be so blinded by the fear of communism that you fail to see the principles of freedom. Because the moment you do that, the moment you use improper means, the moment you overstate your case, you play right into the hands of the communists. Then they make you the issue rather than themselves the issue.

And this is what is wrong with those in the Birch Society who take the attitude any means to an end. This is what is wrong with the Minute Men who say what we will do is to set up a secret organization and we'll have arms in the hills; which would violate the laws of this country.

We need good, strong anti-communists in this country; and I couldn't feel more strongly on this point than I do. But I realize that those who exaggerate, those who make a racket out of it hurt the cause, and that is why I, who have been more attacked by the communists in the Daily Worker than any American of this generation, that's why I say that those who accept or seek the support of organizations like the John Birch Society are not serving America.

PAAR: Hear! Hear!

(APPLAUSE)

PAAR: Well, Mr. Welch, you've heard it. Just go back to the candy store and leave us all alone now.
THE POLITICIAN

"For the sake of honesty, however, I want to confess here my own conviction that Eisenhower's motivation is more idealistic than opportunistic, or to put it bluntly, I personally think that he has been sympathetic to ultimate Communist aims, realistically willing to use Communist means to help them achieve their goals, knowingly accepting and abiding by Communist orders, and consciously serving the Communist conspiracy.

"But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt.

"The Communists can now use all their power and prestige of the Presidency of the United States to implement their plan just as fully and even openly as they dare. They have arrived at this point by three stages. In the first stage Roosevelt thought he was using the Communists to promote his personal ambition and grandiose schemes. Of course, instead the Communists were using him, but without his knowledge of understanding of his place in their game. In the second stage, Truman was used by the Communists with his knowledge and acquiescence as the price he consciously paid for their making him President. In the 3rd stage, in my own firm opinion the Communists have one of their own actually in the Presidency. For this 3rd man, Eisenhower, there is only one possible word to describe his purposes and his actions. That word is treason."

DULLES

For many reasons and after a lot of study, I personally believe Dulles to be a Communist agent who has had one clearly defined role to play; namely, always to say the right things and always to do the wrong ones. The Japanese Peace Treaty, The Austrian Peace Treaty, and his very definite double-crossing of the British government in the Suez affair, are all cases in point. In speeches and public statements, Dulles is always the proponent of the real American position, the man who answers the policies and intentions which the American people want to hear and which they recognize as right. He thus serves to convince the American
Congress and people that the Administration is trying to do the right thing. Then Dulles backs down, or is over-ruled, or appears to be forced by circumstances and pressures he can't control to reverse himself. The Government does exactly the opposite of what he has said it would do; and the defeat of our side is worse than if he had never spoken at all. But the American people simply do not grasp that it was all planned that way in the first place."

"For it is said beyond dispute that Dulles (or our State Department as run by Dulles) has been selling them and their countries down the river into Communist hands as cleverly as he knew how and as rapidly as he cared."
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Dulles referred to as "Kremlin-serving hypocrite"