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<td>Re: Grant Reynolds and possible meeting with Negro leaders. 1 page.</td>
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<td>02/21/1962</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>&quot;GOP 'Stupid' in '60 Campaign--Top GOPer&quot; by Jack S. McDowell, unknown newspaper. Not scanned.</td>
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<td>Memo</td>
<td>From H.R. Haldeman to R.H. Finch, H. Kalmbach, and N. Morris re: Meeting with Grant Reynolds on Feb. 21, 1962. 2 pages.</td>
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Grant Reynolds —

per conv. with [DELETED] 5/9

he will be here 6/19 - 24

see — Negro file — corres. w/ Valley Knudsen
Grant Reynolds called - said had just come from Washington -
Bob Wilson had told him to call you and find out if there is anything out here he can do to help.
- said he picked up some very valuable information in D.C. - namely that the Democrats are sending out the same Negro team that was so successful in the New Jersey election.
- it is Reynold's theory that what we should do is have someone of national importance raise some very hot issues that will get them debating among themselves - thereby cutting their effectiveness -- and he thinks he has the gimmick to accomplish it .. said would have to have full press coverage!
- continuing -- he said he has been invited to come out here by Rev. Garner for a speech at the closing of the Negro History Program.....which would be excellent timing.....that Luther King has just denounced the President for failing in his leadership.....Reynolds would produce "strong, ringing denunciation of the Civil Rights Program - properly documented -- and strong demands on NAACP on the Executive Order on housing -- with the idea of forcing Bob Weaver to resign."
- Reynolds said he had authority from Washington to do this -- but needs to hear from you.  Is waiting for your call.  Will be in his office all afternoon -
Valley Knudsen called you this morning (did not say who was calling - but I recognized her voice) -- and when she found out you were not here---asked for Herb - and he took call.

Herb then reported....

Valley is really stirred up -- Grant Reynolds had called her this morning - said he had been waiting for weeks to hear from you about coming out - arranging a meeting with the Negro leaders.

Herb, of course, knew nothing about the matter - but the main thing was that Reynolds' call to Valley really had her upset.

Told Herb you wouldn't be back until 2:30 PM -- that you were planning to call Reynolds -- but apparently Valley's attitude called for quick action, in his opinion -- and he said he would call her back -- that maybe he could call Reynolds or otherwise try to help out.

I suggested he wait -- that I knew you were going to get in touch with Reynolds -- that perhaps had delayed because of certain questions about the deal -- and that for the few hours involved, it might be better to check it out with you first.

He agreed - and I guess was going to call Valley back and explain the situation - and quiet her down.

Herb stressed to me this was something that definitely you should try to take care of this afternoon.

(Grant Reynolds' phone number in White Plains, N.Y. is Rockwell 1-6161)
Reynolds was in 60 Fr. met - N.Y. Conference. Each following week-end 6 Fr. in Detroit - fire after 6.2

Reynolds had call Rev. Farmer in May 20
and on 26-
Press conference -
write publicity to charges of Deans District Negro Community.
Nov. coming end of April a few of May.
Phil Whitney - did job for Hughes
then Louis Martin left Chicago, Dean Netts patronage man.
Debra Padgett - Clayton Doell's office.

his theory drop load shell - put them on defensive -
then let our people doing organization.

Civil Rights Crop only 50% normal attendance.
K. admin done great PR job.

Reynolds thinks we should pull out
before they get started
ask why K. had alone 70% of
hottest issue in housing -
Grant Reynolds called - said had just come from Washington -
Bob Wilson had told him to call you and find out if there is anything out here he can do to help.
- said he picked up some very valuable information in D.C. - namely that the Democrats are sending out the same Negro team that was so successful in the New Jersey election.
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- Reynolds said he had authority from Washington to do this -- but needs to hear from you. Is waiting for your call. Will be in his office all afternoon - White Plains, N.Y. Area Code 914 - Rockwell 1-6161.
March 22, 1962

Dear Bob:

Thanks for your note regarding Grant Reynolds.

I have heard nothing from him since his trip out here, and don't have his address in New York. If you think it would be a good idea for me to get in touch with him before he comes back to California, I will certainly follow your advice.

I will also do my best to arrange an appointment for Mr. Reynolds with the Candidate (as I tried to do on his last trip, also), but we are running into the usual problem which you, among all men, are most familiar with - - namely, a total absence of the Candidate's time for things he should do.

I agree, however, an interview would undoubtedly be helpful on both sides, and will do my best to work it out.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

H. R. Haldeman

Honorable Bob Wilson
House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

File: - W
x - Reynolds
x - chron.
In answer to your request regarding Grant Reynolds and his San Francisco Press Conference, attached are copies of stories which resulted from his meeting with the press February 20th.

I might also add that following the press conference, Ed Slevin, who handles the San Francisco office of the State Central Committee, asked Mr. Reynolds if he would sit down and discuss the Negro problem in California. Reynolds said that he was too busy with speaking engagements and that he would make his report to the National Committee. Slevin, who arranged the press conference, felt that Reynolds was very uncooperative and that he did more harm than good during his San Francisco stay.

As I mentioned to you some time ago, I called Mr. Reynolds upon his arrival in Los Angeles and invited him to attend Garner's Negro affair in Pasadena. He replied that he was much too busy and proceeded to tell me all the mistakes we were making with the Negro voters in California and that it was imperative that he talk to RN immediately.

That is the only contact I have had with him.
March 13, 1962

Dear Bob:

Thought you might be interested in the attached memorandum from Sandy Quinn and the press clippings arising from Grant Reynolds' recent visit.

As Reynolds probably told you, I covered with him immediately prior to his departure the fact that we had had some adverse reaction among our own supporters to a number of the comments he had made at meetings and press conferences.

I do feel that Reynolds' recommendations can be of great help to us, but that his activities in California should be limited to constructive matters rather than criticism of past or present errors -- especially in public.

I understand Reynolds is going to be back out here in April and hope we can take further advantage of his advice and counsel. However, I also hope you will have an opportunity to discuss with him the necessity for accentuating the positive.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

H. R. Haldeman

Honorable Bob Wilson
House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

File: Wilson
x - Reynolds ✓
✓ - chron.
Bob Haldeman

Meeting with Grant Reynolds February 21, 1963

R. H. Finch
H. Kalmbach
N. Norris

Reynolds strongly recommends the following as key Negro people in their respective areas:

San Diego

Alpha Montgomery, an outstanding young lawyer.

Oakland

George Vaughns, erstwhile candidate for Comptroller, who is now not going to run for that office, but probably will run for a Judgeship.

Los Angeles

No. 1 Brice Taylor
No. 2 A tie between Cris Wright and Norman Houston.
No. 3 Dr. Gray (Reynolds says he makes a lot of noise, but is not the top guy)

Also in Los Angeles, Reynolds recommends strong backing for a young lawyer named Williams who could be persuaded to run for the Assembly in the 21st District. He is an attorney with NAACP and would be an outstanding candidate, according to Reynolds.

Reynolds strongly recommends that we not get involved with O'Brien (I don't know the rest of his name). He also feels we should not work with Garner, but does recommend that we have Paul Williams check out Garner's ministers group; Reynolds feels we should try to get Williams' minister to work with us since he would be outstanding. He also recommends that we counsel at all times with Paul Williams and George Beavers, but in no circumstances should we attempt to project to the Negro community through them.
The formula he recommends for selecting people with whom to identify our campaign in the Negro area is to find the Negro who identifies himself with the struggle of the Negro, who serves in picket lines, belongs to the NAACP, etc. These are the people who will do us some good in reaching the rank and file.

Reynolds strongly recommends we utilize the disc jockeys who beam into the Negro communities. He feels they can be much more effective than the Negro press, which we will have trouble with anyway. He says that Loren Miller of The Eagle will support Kuchel, but probably will not support Nixon.

Reynolds recommends that we call Paul Williams and discuss with him the possibility of having two or three Negro ministers set up dinners for RN in their churches. We would have to pay for the dinners at about $1.00 per plate, but they would be given by the ministers and presumably would be very effective.

Reynolds says our problem with the Negro is that he is not welcome in the top echelon of the Nixon organization. He feels it is essential that in all cities of major size we have a Negro in our top group and working on the entire picture. He believes we will not change the Nixon image among the rank and file Negroes until they feel welcome, warm and wanted in the upper strata of the campaign. He feels the fact that Nixon never came to Harlem during the Presidential campaign had a damaging effect on Negroes all over the country because they say he didn't care enough about them even to make one visit to Harlem.

Reynolds feels we need to use imagination and daring in our approach to the Negro problem, and not confine ourselves to stereotyped plans and program.

He explains his own rather damaging utterances by saying that he feels it does no good for him to try to build Nixon at this point because no one will buy it, but he can be effective by criticising JFK, and point out where the problems are with the thought they will be corrected.