

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
Contested Materials Collection
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4	24	3/15/1971	<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Policy	Memo	From Colson to Haldeman RE: circulation of articles written by Edward Epstein and Daniel Moynihan through the Republican National Committee's Washington Campus News Service. 1 pg.
4	24	3/8/1971	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Memo	From Colson to Haldeman RE: McCloskey's efforts to distance himself from RN. 1 pg.
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March 1, 1971

EYES ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR: LYN NOFZIGER

FROM: CHARLES W. COLSON

The time has come, in my judgment, to start pressing hard on Hubert Humphrey. The advantages to this are two-fold. First of all, it is so much fun to press on Hubert. Secondly, it will begin to make it appear that he is a serious contender, if we can orchestrate some anti-Humphrey talk on the part of Republican Senators, Congressmen and other officials. By indicating concern over HHH we will help to continue to cut into Muskie. In short, it seems to me we want to keep Humphrey visible.

He has given us a delightful opportunity on Meet the Press. He has said that if he were President today, all U. S. troops would now be out of South Vietnam. One, of course, might speculate why, during his four years as Vice President, troop levels continually went up. One might secondly ask how he would have done it - one might thirdly observe on the luxuries of being out of office - what a marvelous job Hubert does when he is on the outside, but how about what he does when he is on the inside. Don't forget what has become my favorite line "he certainly should be concerned about the POW's - they all became POW's while he was in office - while he was sharing the responsibilities of the most important office in America."

I believe there is some powerful, tactical potential here - but, more importantly, it has some long-term strategic values.

EYES ONLY

March 15, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN

FROM: CHARLES W. COLSON

SUBJECT: FYI: Circulation of the Epstein and Moynihan Articles to Campus Newspapers

The Washington Campus News Service (covertly operated by the Republican National Committee) has sent the Edward Epstein article on the Black Panthers which appeared in the February 13th issue of The New Yorker, and Daniel P. Moynihan's article, "The Presidency & the Press," which appeared in the February issue of Commentary, to 1,052 campus newspapers throughout the United States.

The Washington Post's editorial of February 19th which apologized for their bad handling of the facts in the Black Panther matter will also be included in the mailing and give the Epstein article increased credibility.

March 8, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN
FROM: CHARLES W. COLSON

On the CBS Morning News last week, Congressman Pete McCloskey said that his stand against the President had not hurt his relations with members of the White House staff.

I don't know who knows McCloskey best (I have heard Ehrlichman does). If there is a close relationship, it seems to me that an effort should be made to either get him off his present campaign and, if that fails, then freeze him out completely.

It is relatively easy under conditions today for any candidate to develop an insurgent movement within any President's party any time. McCloskey has gotten a good jump on this and we should not dismiss him lightly. He could begin a serious movement and, even if it only attracted 10-15% - there are that many malcontents in the Republican Party - it could become a serious problem. I don't think the Vice President or anyone of national stature should attack him; rather we are trying some low key guerrilla warfare in his own district.

The only point of this memo is that I think the McCloskey situation should be taken seriously. If his relations with the staff have not been hurt and, if there are some friends here, then we should make an effort to get him back on the track quickly. If that fails he should be given the complete cold-shoulder quietly. The point is that we shouldn't continue going along just as if nothing had happened.

cc: John Ehrlichman

March 4, 1971

EYES ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN
FROM: CHARLES W. COLSON
SUBJECT: New Hampshire Politics

I have been picking up, through old friends and political acquaintances, a good bit of scuttlebut out of New Hampshire. There is a surprising lack of enthusiasm in New Hampshire for Muskie. Many of the top Democrats are committed to him publicly, but underneath they show very little real excitement. The consensus is that he is by no means a runaway - notwithstanding the fact that he comes from a neighboring state.

Roger Crowley, Democratic candidate for Governor last time, and a conservative, is leaning heavily towards Jackson. He refuses to say he is against Muskie, but he is going around the state saying very positive things about "Scoop". The Manchester Union Leader is strongly anti-Muskie, as you would well imagine. Many Democrats seem to approve of the President's handling of the war.

McGovern had a reasonably successful trip with the intellectuals and the New Left, of which there is a significant bloc in New Hampshire. He will have that vote solid (could be as high as 25%). If any kind of boomlet develops for "Scoop", Muskie is in very serious trouble because the Democratic Party in New Hampshire has historically nominated rather conservative Democrats like Crowley and King.

The foregoing is just for your information. Some of it was, surprisingly enough, even reported in the Boston Globe this last week - the tenor being that Muskie is not really generating any enthusiasm.

The only line which our political operatives should get out at every possible opportunity is that Muskie will, of course, sweep New Hampshire because he is from Maine. People should expect that he will carry 90% of the vote. If he does much less as it would now seem, the letdown could destroy his national posture.

EYES ONLY