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20	4	12/2/1971	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Memo	From Dent to Haldeman and the Attorney General RE: George Wallace's role in the 1972 presidential election. 2 pgs.

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December 2, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Attorney General
H. R. Haldeman

FROM: Harry S. Dent *HSD*

This clarifies my memo of November 5 concerning the implications of George Wallace's candidacy in Florida. The previous report was based on a hasty evaluation by Florida GOP leaders of events then underway in Florida but which did not culminate.

In the memorandum, it was stated that a ruling had been made that George Wallace would forfeit electoral votes if he ran as a Democrat in Florida and an independent in the general election. The conclusion was that if Wallace was willing to forfeit Florida's electoral votes, then he must not be serious about the general election in 1972.

The memo of November 5 was written subsequent to a conversation with the National Committeewoman, who told of a decision by the Florida Secretary of State to deprive Wallace of electoral votes he might win as a Democrat. This was checked with two more people in Florida. However, the Secretary of State never completed his proposal.

The Florida Democrat Central Committee did pass a resolution to deny Wallace delegate votes if he ran as a Democrat in Florida and as an independent in other states. The Committee has recently rescinded that action.

Under Florida's garbled election laws, the Secretary of State nominates presidential candidates for the primary.

However, each party has a committee with veto power over potential candidates under their banner. If one member of the respective committee backs the candidacy of an individual, that candidate's name goes on the party ballot. Jerry Thomas, a Democrat and President of the Senate, has said he will have Wallace's name included in the primary as a Democrat.

Thus, it appears at this point that Wallace will be in the primary as a Democrat, and without the delegate or electoral restrictions previously advocated.