

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 20, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN  
FROM: CHARLES COLSON   
SUBJECT: Mayor Yorty

It seems like many moons ago in my efforts to get Mayor Yorty that I told Henry Salvatore, with your authority, that we would put Yorty in as Under Secretary of the Army, Navy or Air Force, if he would endorse us. Yorty came back with a counter offer that he would like to see the President, which we rejected.

I talked with Yorty several times on the telephone. He never ruled out the job of Under Secretary of the Army, Navy, or Air Force, but merely said that our promises in the past had not been kept and that this time if he agreed to something, he wanted to see the President. We finessed this, as you know.

Ten days before the election, Salvatore called me and said that he had Yorty's endorsement, that Yorty in effect was going to go along with us. Yorty issued a statement which was almost precisely as we had written it and did his bit.

Salvatore has now called me frantically to say that Yorty is ready to resign as Mayor but wants the assurance that he has the job which was offered to him. Yorty will then name a successor as Mayor of L. A. which will be Salvatore's man.

In a strictly legal sense, Yorty made a counter offer to our offer; hence we are probably not stuck with our original proposition to him. Morally however, I would question whether having once made this offer we should now back away from it. I don't know how vindictive an enemy Yorty can be, but I am positive that it is in his mind that he has the job if he wants it. It would be holy hell to pay for someone if we were to now tell him to forget it. He would claim that he had been twice double-crossed and if nothing else, we would undoubtedly incur Salvatore's keen displeasure. Please advise. The pressure is on hard!