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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

To: Terry O'Donnell

From: Jack Calkins

Dick Cheney said the President
had requested the attached.

H. NATHAN



Date 5:40 PM March 3, [1975]

DR

RESOLUTION BEFORE YR LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, MARCH 1:

Whereas, the liberal thrust of the Ford Administration, particularly the proposed huge federal deficit, has alienated many conservative Republicans and has raised the possibility of a conservative third party, and

Whereas, the Young Republican National Federation, as the nation's largest political youth organization has been deeply concerned with the trend of the Ford Administration and the future of the Republican Party, and

Whereas, the formation of the Committee on Conservative Alternatives, consisting of responsible conservative leaders, many of whom are Republican, represents a serious move in the direction of a new third party, that could threaten the very existence of the Republican Party,

Therefore, be it resolved that the YRNF go on record urging the Ford Administration to readopt the conservative principles that brought about the massive Republican mandate in 1972, and abandon the liberal policies that have brought the United States to the brink of economic disaster and raised the possibility of a third party, and

Be it further resolved that, the Young Republican National Federation appoint a liaison with the Committee on Conservative Alternatives to represent the view point of the Young Republican National Federation that the Republican Party is the best vehicle to express the traditional conservative principles on which the Party was formed and grew great.'

The resolution passed 65 to 25.



4/28/75

Only copy

TO: The President

FROM: Jack Stiles *JPS*

SUBJECT: Young Republican Convention

- 1) Within two months the YR's hold their national convention in Indianapolis.
- 2) This "off year" convention is regarded as signaling the opening of the '76 campaign and a public indicator of trends to come.
- 3) Reagan has much support among conservative YR's and might obtain an endorsement for presidential nomination. This possibility must be neutralized or reversed.
- 4) As you know the YR organization is "skeletal" with policies dictated by a handful of opinion-makers.
- 5) We should take every opportunity (on the road or in Washington) for you to get to know these key people on a first-name basis. Their support for you in Indianapolis in early July is vital.
- 6) I will consult with Pete McPherson and Pam Powell who know the picture and I will submit scheduling suggestions for such meetings with right YR's.

Hopefully you can fit some of these suggestions into your schedule. Such accomodation won Nixon an outright endorsement from the YR's in 1959.



Don Sunquist of Tennessee - Past Chairman of National YR's--very close to Brock.

Jack Mueller - Party Chairman of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Will be National YR Chairman in July.

Clark Horvath of Illinois.

Clyda McLean - Will be National YR Co-Chairman in July -- conservative leader in Oregon.

Charlie Black - Political guy for Senator Helms.

Dave Forward - State Party Chairman of Maryland.

Dave Jones - Leader of group. Previously Senator Buckley's A. A., long time political boss of YAF and later of National YR's. Now ex-director of Republican Party in Tennessee. *Excellent organizational abilities.*

Bill Tucker - Assistant Attorney General in Colorado; leader of conservative force--does not control that wing of Party; excellent at conservative politics.

Mike Thompson - Missouri person--political ties with the YAF group over 10 years.

Lou Kitchen - ran Governor Edwards' campaign in S. C. - Does 'extensive political consulting work in Georgia, Texas, and other parts of the South. Ran Congressman Fletcher Thomas Georgia office and U. S. Senate campaign.

Ben Cotten - D. C. Lawyer. Ran Louise Gore's campaign in Maryland. Active in both Nixon campaigns--excellent at picking situations apart. Does not always carry through.

Jack Carlson - County Chairman in Wash city area - Minn. Finance committee for party



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

7/8/75

FOR: RICHARD CHENEY
FROM: PETER McPHERSON /M.

For your information.

Attachments

*Good report.
Good job.*

Memo on the Young Republican Convention

Highlights

- (1) No endorsement for any candidate was passed.
- (2) Open convention resolution was passed.
- (3) Most of the officers elected are expected to be neutral in the Presidential contest.
- (4) Substantial Ford support was evident.
- (5) Callaway did an excellent job for the President in his visit to the convention.
- (6) Connally said "I expect to be supporting Ford for the Presidency."
- (7) A fight at the fall board meeting over the endorsement of Reagan is expected.

Background

The convention was held in Indianapolis from July 2 through 5.

The Young Republican National Federation has traditionally been very conservative and is run, in large part, by an informal political organization called "the team." Forty-four states belong to the team and decisions are made by 11 regional representatives and 2 national leaders. These 2 national leaders are Peter McPherson of the Presidential Personnel Office and Charles Black of Senator Jesse Helms' office.

Open Convention Resolution

The above described team met the first night of the convention to discuss what the convention should do about the Presidential race. Reagan, it was argued, did not want an endorsement but wanted an open convention resolution. However, several Reagan people said that an endorsement should be passed anyway in line with the draft Goldwater Committee efforts in 1964. After much discussion an open convention resolution was decided upon as compromise between Reagan people and those who wanted a Ford endorsement or no resolution at all. This watered-down resolution is at Tab A. The next day when Reagan met with the team leadership, he suggested a "contested" convention resolution but the "team position" was never changed and was unanimously passed by the convention a few days later.



The team took no position on other resolutions before the convention. However, other pertinent resolutions were passed. A resolution critical of the "Administration's" unbalanced budget was passed after several roll calls and much discussion. See Tab B. Other resolutions were passed which praised the President for his vetoes and handling of the Mayaguez incident. See Tab C. No endorsement for any Presidential candidates was passed.

Callaway Visit and Support for Ford

Bo Callaway came on the last day of the convention, held a press conference and was a guest of honor at a reception for delegates put on by the Illinois delegation. He met privately with the newly elected officers and the team leadership. At the evening banquet he gave a short address to the group. At that banquet there was a Ford demonstration and a counter Reagan demonstration. It seemed that the "Ford in '76" chant was considerably louder than the "we want Reagan" chant. The Callaway visit substantially blunted the criticism directed to the President for not coming to the convention. To quote Sunday's New York Times "...the more important omens here at the biennial Young Republican convention, prophetic in past years about currents in the "senior" party are distinctly favorable to Mr. Ford." It is expected that most of the officers elected at the YRNF convention will remain officially neutral in the Presidential race.

John Connally's Presence at the Convention

Connally addressed the closing banquet, praised Ford and stated that he expected to support Ford for the nomination. He further stated that he would support a Ford-Rockefeller ticket if it was nominated but implied that he was not for Rockefeller getting the nomination for Vice President. In a subsequent private session with the officers and the team leadership, Connally seemed to be taking the role of a Ford defender and prodder. Connally himself impressed nearly everyone, except a small percentage of very, very conservative individuals.

Fall Board Meeting

A major effort to endorse Reagan can be expected at the fall board meeting in October or November. If Reagan is declared a candidate at that time, such an effort will have great support.

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OPEN CONVENTION

WHEREAS, the YRNF reaffirms its belief in the traditional principles of the Republican Party--the principles of limited government, individual freedom and responsibility, the free enterprise system, and a strong, free America, and

WHEREAS, in 1972 American voters overwhelmingly endorsed these principles, and

WHEREAS, the YRNF strongly believes that the Republican Party should represent these principles in the 1976 Presidential election, believing this to be the best course for victory,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the YRNF endorses the concept of an open Republican convention in 1976 in the selection of a candidate for President and Vice President who will best reflect these principles.



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BALANCED BUDGET

WHEREAS, the present Congress of the United States has and continues to pass record deficit spending bills without regard to the effect of said spending upon the economy of the United States, and

WHEREAS, deficit spending passes the ultimate responsibility for repayment on to future generations, and

WHEREAS, deficit spending creates inflationary spiral and robs the average American of his purchasing power, and is particularly devastating to those living on a fixed income, and

WHEREAS, the Republican administration has unfortunately followed the Democrat philosophy of deficit financing and an unbalanced budget, thus endangering our nation's economic stability,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the YRNF calls upon the United States Congress and the President to adopt a fiscally responsible policy of balancing the federal budget which can only be achieved through elimination of deficit spending.



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MAYAGUEZ

WHEREAS, the merchant ship MAYAGUEZ, while in International waters was seized by an act of piracy by the revolutionary forces of the Khmer Rouge, and

WHEREAS, the freedom of International trade and travel is dependent on the safety from attack, and

WHEREAS, President Ford's action against the seizure of the MAYAGUEZ was in the best interest of the United States and of International order,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the YRNF endorse President Ford's swift action and will support the President in similar emergencies when military action is required for the security of the United States.



VETOES

WHEREAS, the Honorable Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States of America, has acted with calm and purposeful resolve to solve the economic ills of the country, and

WHEREAS, President Ford proposed and signed the tax rebate schedule to help alleviate individual plight and restore market confidence, and

WHEREAS, President Ford, in the face of enormous government deficits created by the rebate, the recessions and entrenched government programs has expressed his determination to hold the line on government spending, and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States ignored the desires of the American people by recklessly enacting programs that enlarge the deficit,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the YRNF endorse President Ford's veto of these bills, and commend the Congressmen responsible for the defeat of the override attempt.

