

The original documents are located in Box 6, folder “Peterson Commission Report on Executive Salaries, November 1976” of the White House Special Files Unit Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: November 29, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information): FYI-Bill Nicholson

Phil Buchen Alan Greenspan
 Jim Cannon Jerry Jones
 Max Friedersdorf Ron Nessen

~~Jack Marsh~~
 FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: COB Today

Time:

SUBJECT: James T. Lynn memo, 11/29/76 re
 Quadrennial Commission Report

ACTION REQUESTED:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Necessary Action | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Agenda and Brief | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Remarks |

REMARKS:

Release report but
 clearly state it is the
 view of the commission and
 not those of the President.

Jim

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
 For the President



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

NOV 29 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: James T. Lynn
SUBJECT: Quadrennial Commission Report

The Quadrennial Commission on Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Salaries has been operating for several weeks, and it is clear that the members are doing a commendably thorough and conscientious job under the chairmanship of Peter Peterson. They have completed their public hearings and are now drafting their report. During this process, the Chairman will be touching base with key Congressmen and perhaps others. The Commission is planning to review a first draft within the next few days and is hoping to have its final meeting on November 30, with delivery of the printed report shortly thereafter.

If you concur, Chairman Peterson wants to release the formal report as soon as it has been delivered to you. He would like to be able to hold a press conference and commence, in earnest, a public education campaign concerning the desperate need to do something about executive and judicial compensation. For this purpose, he really will need to be free to use the Commission's report.

We believe it is in your best interests to let the report go public in advance of submitting your own executive salary recommendations in the budget. Mr. Peterson is willing, and it would seem preferable, to let the expected controversy focus on him for a month or more before you make your recommendations. Of course, if asked, you probably would want to indicate your continued support for some adjustment without committing yourself to anything very specific. This provides time for you to better gauge public and media reaction and to consult with the congressional leadership on your recommendations. Chairman Peterson would expect to do what he can to enlist understanding and support both prior to and after your decision and up to the point of congressional action on your recommendations.

The main argument for withholding a report such as this would be to give you time to review it and formulate a position before its release. In this case, there seem no compelling reasons for doing so. On the contrary, because of the great interest in the subject, there is strong likelihood of leaks or damaging speculation if the report is not released. We believe it best that the Commission's findings and rationale be made available, along with their actual recommendations. Otherwise, congressional and other opponents are likely to take advantage of the opportunity to begin criticizing the recommendations without the counter-balancing effect of the Commission's findings. In short, there are serious risks in delay, with little or nothing to be gained.

It would be appropriate and useful for you to receive the report personally from the Chairman and, perhaps the entire Quadrennial Commission of nine. This could be followed immediately by a meeting of the Chairman with the press in the White House. Pete Peterson or Ron Nessen could emphasize that you have not studied or committed yourself to the Commission's recommendations.

Since Peterson needs an answer by the Commission's next meeting on the 30th, I plan to inform him that I believe this general approach will be acceptable to you, unless you advise me otherwise before the 30th.

Date: November 29, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information): FYI-Bill Nicholson

Phil Buchen

Alan Greenspan

Jim Cannon

Jerry Jones

Max Friedersdorf

Ron Nessen

Jack Marsh

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

COB Today

Time:

SUBJECT:

James T. Lynn memo, 11/29/76 re
Quadrennial Commission Report

ACTION REQUESTED:

 For Necessary Action For Your Recommendations Prepare Agenda and Brief Draft Reply For Your Comments Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Domestic Council concurs with OMB
recommendation.

AFA/cd

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Jim Connor
For the President

112906



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 29, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CONNOR
~~PHIL BUCHEN~~

FROM:

BOBBIE KILBERG *BK*

THROUGH:

PHILIP BUCHEN *P*

SUBJECT:

Quadrennial Commission Report

The Counsel's Office approves Jim Lynn's memo on the above subject.

However, we would suggest that Peter Peterson's press conference not be held at the White House in order to assure that the press clearly understands that the President has not studied or committed himself to the Committee's recommendations.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: November 29, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information): FYI-Bill Nicholson

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 Jim Cannon Jerry Jones
 Max Friedersdorf Ron Nessen
 Jack Marsh
 FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: COB Today

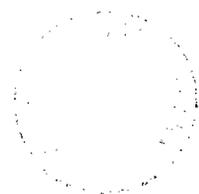
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REMARKS:

I would oppose release of this until the President sees it. Release will signal Presidential endorsement of a Federal Pay Raise. This is the pay raise question will touch off a big battle in the Hill & I believe we should not put the President in the position of endorsing any Federal pay increase which the Democrats could use to justify passage.

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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

NOV 29 1976

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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FOR ACTION:

cc (for information): FYI-Bill Nicholson

- Phil Buchen
- ✓ Jim Cannon
- ✓ Max Friedersdorf
- ✓ Jack Marsh
- ✓ Alan Greenspan
- Jerry Jones
- Ron Nessen

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: COB Today

Time:

SUBJECT: James T. Lynn memo, 11/29/76 re Quadrennial Commission Report

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Greenspan - no comment
Cannon - concurs
Marsh - with comment
Friedersdorf - with comments (approve)



Exec

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Jim Connor
For the President

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REMARKS:

*Depends
 entirely upon
 our position on
 the reports findings -
 have lean in favor of the
 report - release it early -
 If not, hold it -*

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to be "JC".

Jim Cannon
For the President

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 30, 1976

MR PRESIDENT:

*return to
Lynn -
not sent*

Quadrennial Commission Report

Your immediate attention is required on the attached memorandum from Jim Lynn.

Staffing resulted in the following recommendations:

Jack Marsh - 'Release report but clearly state it is the view of the commission and not those of the President. "

Max Friedersdorf - "I would oppose release of this until the President sees it. Release will signal Presidential endorsement of a Federal Pay Raise. The pay raise question will touch off a big battle on the Hill and I believe we should not put the President in the position of endorsing any Federal pay increase which the Democrats could use to justify passage. "

Phil Buchen - Approve Jim Lynn's memo, however, we would suggest that Peter Peterson's press conference not be held at the White House in order to assure that the press clearly understands that the President has not studied or committed himself to the Committee's recommendations. "

Jim Cannon - concurs with OMB's recommendation.

Alan Greenspan - no comments.

Jerry Jones and Ron Nessen - No comments at this writing.

-

_____ Approve Approach Outlined by Jim Lynn

_____ Disapprove Jim Lynn's Approach.

Jim Connor

November 30, 1976

MR PRESIDENT:



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_____ Disapprove Jim Lynn's Approach.

Jim Connor

December 1, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM LYNN

FROM:

JIM CONNOR

SUBJECT:

Quadrennial Commission Report

In accordance with instructions from Dick Cheney your memorandum of November 29 on the above subject is returned to you.