

The original documents are located in Box 19, folder “Vice President - House Suggestions, A-Mh (1)” of the Robert T. Hartmann Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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JOHN B. ANDERSON
16TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

CHAIRMAN, REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE

MEMBER:
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ATOMIC ENERGY
COMMITTEE ON RULES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
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DISTRICT OFFICE:
ROCK RIVER SAVINGS BUILDING
401 W. STATE STREET
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61101
(815) 962-8807

August 12, 1974

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I would respectfully offer the following three names for your consideration in connection with the vacancy that now exists in the Office of Vice President:

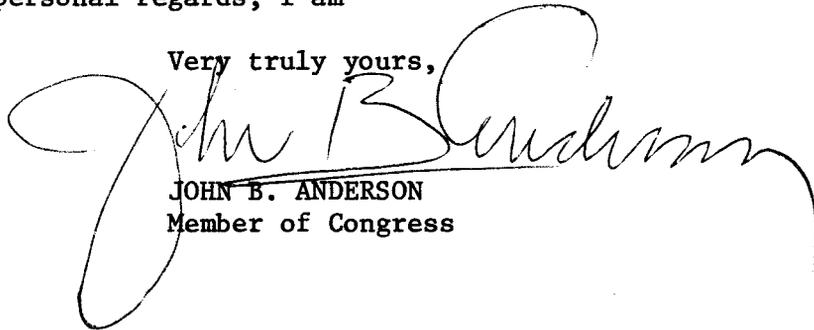
1. Nelson Rockefeller. Until his resignation last December, Nelson Rockefeller was the Nation's senior Governor. It seems to me his experience as Chief Executive of the Nation's second largest state would be useful in connection with any number of tasks that you may see fit to assign to your Vice President. I also believe that his acceptability within the Republican Party has increased a great deal in the past few years, and some of my most conservative colleagues in the Congress have indicated to me personally that they do not see any ideological gulf between Rockefeller and the overwhelming majority of Republicans.
2. Elliot Richardson. Elliot would likewise bring to this post a wide background of experience in government. He would also symbolize in a very dramatic way that the healing process has begun because of the circumstances which prompted his departure from government last October. His appointment by you would indicate to the Nation that you want to bring back into government some of the good men who were the casualties of that prior period. His appointment would also reasseverate your insistence on the highest standards of integrity and probity with respect to your appointments.
3. Governor Dan Evans. Governor Evans has compiled an outstanding record as one of our Nation's most distinguished Governors. His appointment could symbolize the kind of creative partnership based on the New Federalism which your Administration intends to work out with state and local governments. He

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
August 12, 1974
Page Two

would also offer such other obvious advantages as youth
and geographical balance.

With best personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John B. Anderson". The signature is written over the typed name and title.

JOHN B. ANDERSON
Member of Congress

JBA/meh

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

John B. Anderson

M.C.

Honorable John J. Rhodes
H232 The Capitol

FOR PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD ONLY

BY PAGE

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(701) 232-8030

GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA 58201
(701) 775-9601

MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA 58701
(701) 839-5510

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

MARK ANDREWS
NORTH DAKOTA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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CONSUMER PROTECTION AGENCIES
STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE, JUDICIARY,
AND RELATED AGENCIES

August 12, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

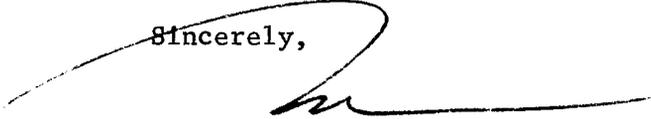
John Rhodes asked me to submit to you my recommendations
for a candidate for the Office of the Vice President.

In the event you do not choose to pick an elder statesman,
such as Barry Goldwater or Nelson Rockefeller and I'm sure
you know the reasons why they would be highly acceptable, I
have three choices: 1 - Melvin Laird
2 - Melvin Laird
3 - Melvin Laird.

I don't suppose I really have to tell you, Mr. President, why
he would be an outstanding choice both for you and the Nation.

Best wishes in your new responsibility.

Sincerely,



MARK ANDREWS
Congressman for North Dakota

MA/mj

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



M.C.

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The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 13, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

The Minority Leader has asked that we submit to you through him our suggestions for the office of Vice President. I enthusiastically recommend George Bush for your consideration for the following reasons:

1. His political ties in both New England and Texas would provide geographic balance. His age, too, is to be considered an asset.
2. He was confirmed unanimously by the Senate to be United States Ambassador to the United Nations and would have no difficulty gaining rapid confirmation as Vice President. George has many friends on both sides of the aisle in both chambers.
3. George's experience at the United Nations serves him well. He is respected by his former colleagues at the U.N. and throughout the world.
4. His service in the Congress is also helpful. His four years on the Ways and Means Committee should be beneficial to you in leading the fight against inflation.
5. George has always been driven by only the highest moral and ethical considerations. He led the fight in the Congress in 1966 for disclosure and reform.
6. He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Yale and a most successful businessman.
7. His devotion and dedication to our country are clear to all who know him or who have ever heard him speak. Despite his partisan position he has been a unifying force throughout the past year and is held in highest esteem by Americans of all political persuasions.
8. George has a great war record and a wonderful family.
9. George Bush would be extremely loyal to you, Mr. President, and to the best interests of our great country.

The President
Page Two

August 13, 1974

I would further like to indicate that my second choice would be Senator Bill Brock of Tennessee. I know you are familiar with his qualifications and abilities.

Thank you, Mr. President, for your kind attention to this suggestion. You have my best wishes and support in all your decisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill Archer".

Bill Archer, M. C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Bill Archer
M.C.

The President of the United States

WILLIAM L. ARMSTRONG
5TH DISTRICT, COLORADO

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
513 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4422

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COLORADO OFFICES:
2322 HANOVER, SUITE 5
AURORA, COLORADO 80010
(303) 837-2655

104 CASCADE SQUARE
228 NORTH CASCADE
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80902
(303) 634-6071

August 13, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Congratulations!

Your address to Congress last night was great. It was a powerful and meaningful message. The nation has been waiting for strong leadership. I am deeply thankful you have already begun to give us a sense of direction and unity which have been lacking too long.

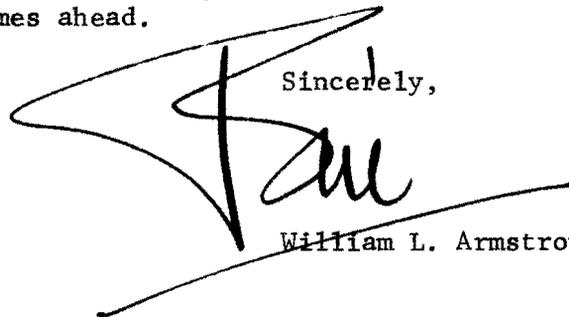
Although I appreciate the opportunity you have given us to offer recommendations for the Vice Presidency, I know the names which I prefer have already been brought to your attention and you will give these persons thoughtful consideration.

I know in making your decision you will think first and foremost of a person who will be best able to assume the office of President in the dread and unlikely event it should become necessary. And you know, better than anyone else, the qualities such a person must have.

So let me offer but one suggestion... I hope you will give utmost consideration to a person who has extensive experience in elected public office. Getting a charter directly from the people fosters attitudes and habits of mind which are of utmost importance to a Vice President and potential President.

Mr. President, my thoughts and prayers will be with you during the difficult times ahead.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Armstrong', with a long horizontal line extending from the bottom right of the signature.

William L. Armstrong

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS


M.C.

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By Hand

The President
C/O The Hon. John Rhodes
Room H - 230
The Capitol



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

L. A. "SKIP" BAFALIS
TENTH DISTRICT
FLORIDA

August 12, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with your request, I herewith respectfully submit my personal recommendations for persons to fill the vacant position of Vice President:

1. George Bush
2. Barry Goldwater
3. Ronald Reagan

It is my hope that whomever you select will not be out of tune with the majority of the Republican Party. I put such men as Nelson Rockefeller, Charles Percy and Edward Brooke in that category.

My prayers and best wishes go out to you as our new leader. I am hopeful that we can once again begin to move our nation forward and I want to assure you that you have my full support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Office of The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Office of The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

LAMAR BAKER
3D DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

119 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 223-3271

COUNTIES:
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MARION
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MORGAN
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

August 13, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

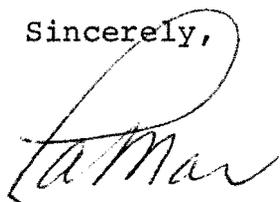
In accordance with your suggestion that members of Congress recommend suitable nominees for Vice President, I am submitting to you my thoughts and preferences.

Taken into consideration in making my judgment are basic political philosophy, experience, broad acceptability, ease of confirmation, Republican Party health, and finally, who I would like to have campaigning for me in the Third Congressional District in Tennessee. I name my choices in order of preference: 1) Bill Brock, 2) Howard Baker, Jr., 3) George Bush.

Using the same criteria, there are several mentioned who to me are unacceptable -- Elliot Richardson, Charles Percy, and Nelson Rockefeller.

I submit these suggestions with candor and trust they will be treated confidentially after your decision is made. I intend to support you fully in any nomination you submit to the Congress.

Sincerely,



Lamar Baker
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Lamar Baker
M.C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

ROBIN BEARD
6TH DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

124 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 225-2811

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5384 POPLAR AVENUE
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710 NORTH GARDEN STREET
COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE 38401
(615) 388-2133

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

ALBERT F. GANIER III
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

WILL ROGERS
FIELD DIRECTOR

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 13, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing in response to your request for assistance in selecting a new Vice President.

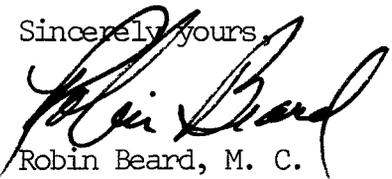
After giving the matter a great deal of thought, I would like to submit the names of four individuals for your consideration.

Senators Howard H. Baker and William E. Brock, III, Ambassador George Bush, and Governor Winfield Dunn are eminently qualified to serve your new Administration and the Nation as Vice President. They are men of great ability, high integrity and tremendous loyalty to their country and to our party. I would be pleased to see you choose any one of these individuals to serve as the new Vice President.

I want you to know that you have my full support and my prayers as you begin your Presidency. I welcome your "open door" policy, and I look forward to working closely with you in the coming months.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



Robin Beard, M. C.

RLB:kcm

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Robin Beard
M.C.

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The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

ALPHONZO BELL
28TH DISTRICT
CALIFORNIA

RICHARD BLADES
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HOME ADDRESS:
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:
SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS
EDUCATION AND LABOR

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 13, 1974

The President
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

I am very honored, as a Member of Congress, to have the opportunity to submit recommendations for the Vice Presidency. I have listed five names in the order of my preferred choices with an explanation to follow.

1. Governor Nelson Rockefeller, New York.
2. Congressman John Anderson, Illinois.
3. Senator Mark Hatfield, Oregon.
4. Mr. Elliot Richardson, Massachusetts.
5. Senator Charles Percy, Illinois.

In most cases if a person at the top of the ticket is judged a conservative, it would make good political sense to have a more moderate to liberal as Vice President. Politically speaking, my best guess is that the Democrats, for example, will balance their 1976 ticket with a liberal and a moderate to conservative candidate. If Republicans do not pursue this course, we will lose our appeal to a vast element of voters who would feel they had no choice but to vote Democratic.

I have divided into three categories, which are the most often considered basic categories in a selection of this kind: region, capability, and the political aspect or electability. My recommendations are predicated on these thoughts:

1. Governor Nelson Rockefeller
 - a. Region: New York (East Coast). Helps balance the Mid-West.
 - b. Capability: First rate experience and background, probably the most qualified. World-wide financial connections will add to the talent he will attract.

- c. Electability: Adds to and broadens the ticket.
 - (1) The President's appeal for the most part is to moderate - conservative voters and supporters.
 - (2) Rockefeller's appeal would be to moderate - liberal voters, thus adds to balance the ticket.
 - a. This feature is very important especially since Nelson still retains some conservative support.
 - (3) Rockefeller's great wealth eliminates any fear that he might be "in it for the money" syndrome resulting partially from Watergate. "Mr. Clean" image.
- d. Age of Rockefeller is obviously a matter of question. Numerous Presidents, Vice Presidents, Prime Ministers have served effectively in their seventies: Eisenhower, Andrew Jackson and others. This should not preclude his consideration.

2. Congressman John Anderson

- a. Region: Illinois. Same as President.
 - (1) Although region is mentioned first, it is certainly of least importance.
- b. Capability: Excellent speaker and would be an excellent salesman from the podium on t.v. and radio. He is extremely intelligent and articulate. He would have great appeal in speaking for the President's program, which I believe will come across very well to the voting public.
 - (1) Not well-known at the present, but if Vice President he would not have "foot-in-mouth" disease of some Vice Presidents of past and would soon be favorably well-known.
- c. Electability: Adds to and broadens the ticket.
 - (1) Would appeal to more moderate thinking Republicans and Democrats.

3. Senator Mark Hatfield

- a. Region: Oregon. Regional appeal. (West Coast - close to Senator Henry Jackson country) Attractive.
- b. Capability: Considered very capable and has many years in the Senate and was Governor of the State of Oregon. Both State and Federal experience. Excellent speaker and would be a great salesman on t.v. and radio. Also has great integrity.
- c. Electability: Would add to broadening of ticket.
 - (1) More moderate-liberal appeal.
 - (2) Has some appeal to those voters both Republican and Democrats unhappy about Vietnam war.

4. Mr. Elliot Richardson

- a. Region: Massachusetts. Regional appeal.
- b. Capability: Background and training and qualifications are excellent.
 - (1) Could handle any job assigned and would be very helpful as an advisor or trouble-shooter for the President.
- c. Electability: Will add to the ticket.
 - (1) Provides a more moderate-progressive appeal.
 - (2) "Mr. Clean" appeal to Republican and Democratic voters who may be still unhappy with Nixon Administration. Has reputation for great integrity.

5. Senator Charles Percy

- a. Region: Illinois. Same region as President.
 - (1) Region should be considered but not a major consideration or disqualification.

August 13, 1974

- b. Capability: Many years experience in the Senate and considered a capable, excellent speaker, very good salesman for Ford Administration on t.v., radio and he has great appeal. Also he is very attractive on t.v., and is already fairly well-known throughout country and has a good image.
- c. Electability: Adds to and broadens the ticket.
 - (1) Appeal to more moderate-liberal thinking Republican and Democratic voters.
 - (2) Has been campaigning and is already fairly well-known so his identity would not be considered a factor.
 - (3) Personally wealthy - therefore could easily overcome any misconstrued and misplaced voter concern about "politicians need for money".
 - (4) A very successful businessman and could appeal to business, labor and other more moderate - liberal groups.

Respectfully yours,



Alphonzo Bell
United States Congressman

AB:dwh

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Alphonzo Bee

M. C.

The President of the United States

The White House

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OFFICE 19059
7500 BRISTOL PIKE, ROUTE 13
POST OFFICE BOX 12
LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA
TELEPHONE: 945-2558

EDWARD G. BIESTER, JR.
8TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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TELEPHONE: AREA CODE 202
225-4276, 225-4277 or 225-4278

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

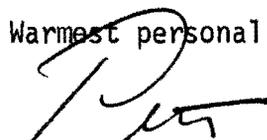
August 12, 1974

President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I appreciate the opportunity you have given me to suggest candidates for the office of Vice President. There are perhaps five men that come to my mind -- each of whom possesses the necessary qualities of experience in domestic and foreign relations as well as the high degree of integrity necessary for this position: Nelson Rockefeller
William Scranton
Edward Brooke
George Bush
Donald Rumsfeld

Warmest personal regards



Edward G. Biester, Jr.
Member of Congress

EGBJr/nf

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



M.C.

President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



M.C.

Honorable John Rhodes
H-232 Capitol
Washington, D. C.

INSIDE MAIL

BEN B. BLACKBURN
4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

ROBERT R. SIEGRIST
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

GERALD CLAYTON
DISTRICT DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1024 LONGWORTH OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: (202) 225-4272

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 12, 1974

COMMITTEES:
BANKING AND CURRENCY
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
DOMESTIC FINANCE
HOUSING

4TH DISTRICT OFFICE:
141 TRINITY PLACE
NEW FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING
DECATUR, GEORGIA 30030
PHONE: (404) 377-7461

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Ford:

I would suggest Barry Goldwater, if he is interested, since he is recognized and respected as a senior Republican and spokesman for sound conservative principles in Government. He is from the West which would bring geographic balance to the Administration.

George Bush impresses me as a very capable and attractive spokesman for the Party who would also make a very attractive Vice President.

Howard Baker would be of considerable help in running for Southern votes and he certainly enjoys a good image nationwide while maintaining a generally good conservative voting pattern which generally appeals to me.

I would definitely not be enthused with a Percy-type, since I think he is out of step with the philosophy of the majority of the Republican Party.

A nomination of a black or a female would impress me as political gimickry designed to placate the Washington Post and New York Times, and there is no point in catering to that crowd.

Very respectfully,



BEN B. BLACKBURN
Member of Congress
Fourth District, Georgia

BBB:bpd

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Ben B. Blackburn
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
c/o Congressman John J. Rhodes