

The original documents are located in Box 50, folder “President - Political Affairs Republican Fundraising Letters” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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The Washington Merry-Go-Round

President Irking Hill Democrats

By Jack Anderson
and Les Whitten

President Ford has always had a cordial, lockerroom relationship with Democratic leaders on Capitol Hill. They have been able to trade political punches yet remain on good terms.

But as the weather has turned colder, the political climate has heated up. Some Democratic leaders are losing their friendly feelings toward the President.

He has hit them with more than 30 vetoes. He has campaigned against them up and down the land, accusing them of fiscal irresponsibility. He has raised a howl about the "can't do" Congress.

Now he had written a private letter to big-money men asking for contributions to unseat Democratic members of Congress next year. A copy of the letter has fallen into Democratic hands, and it is raising Democratic hackles.

"Since becoming President," declares Ford, "I have tried to achieve many things." He then offers a heroic account of his efforts to hold the nation together.

"As you know," he continues, "many of these efforts and other positive steps have been thwarted by a Congress heavily controlled by the Democrats. In some instances, the Congress has turned a deaf ear; in others it has written its own extravagant legislation."

"What America needs is a Republican Congress working for Republican goals. Unless more Republicans are elected in 1976, inflation and excessive deficit spending will continue."

White House sources described the letter as a routine fund-raising pitch. But many Democrats on Capitol Hill believe the President is carrying partisan politics too far. This could lead to some jarring confrontations between the President and Congress next year.

Military Laxity—The new volunteer armed forces could be easily penetrated by spies, subversives, ex-criminals or anyone else who might be interested in a fraudulent enlistment.

This is the view of security experts who have told us the recruiting procedures are sloppy and security checks are inadequate. For example, 25 per cent of the enlistees' fingerprints are rejected as unclassifiable when they reach the FBI for filing.

The lax security is best illustrated by the astounding case of Thomas R. Faernstrom, 28, who

re-enlisted at least 10 times and collected more than \$30,000 in bonuses before the FBI chased him down.

The fast-talking Faernstrom would breeze into a town, set up headquarters in a hotel and offer jobs to recently discharged military men. When they came in for their job interviews, he would ask for copies of their separation papers, Social Security numbers and other vital documents.

Then Faernstrom would skip town and use the stolen papers to enlist under the unsuspecting veteran's name. He would collect around \$2,500 in re-enlistment bonuses. Sometimes he would also persuade the recruiters to give him advance travel expenses and pay. Then he would

disappear to work the racket somewhere else.

His re-enlistment trail reads like a transcontinental airline schedule: Colorado Springs, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, Memphis, Norfolk, Oakland, Oklahoma City, Phoenix, Raleigh and Richmond.

During his travels, he used an estimated 100 names and pulled off frauds on the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. He also used the stolen identification documents to pass bad checks.

He was finally picked up by Ohio state police in a stolen car. A check with the FBI brought the end of his incredible career.

At the Pentagon, a spokesman frankly conceded that holes exist in enlistment security. But he insisted it would be too expensive to run all fingerprints through the FBI. Other military sources say the cost would be acceptable. Meanwhile, the Pentagon is considering a delay in re-enlistment bonuses until the veterans are firmly back in the service.

Washington Mirl—Senate inority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) has come under fire for allegedly acceptin9 money from Gulf Oil and pulling strings with federal judges to help his associates. We have concluded after an investigation that he hasn't knowingly taken corporate campaign contributions. Nor has he intervened improperly with any federal judge. He has collected his share of corporate law fees paid to his firm. But we have established that he has a binding agreement with his firm not to share in any fees that involve federal matters.

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September 10, 1974

To: Paul Theis

From: Eva Daughtrey

**Attached is the draft Mr. Buchen
suggested for the political
contributions.**

Attachments



On behalf of President Ford, I acknowledge and thank you very much for your kind message with its enclosure. Your helpful response appears to have come as a result of an earlier letter to you from the Vice President in behalf of the [Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee] [The Republican National Committee].

President Ford from the time of his inauguration on August 9 has determined it is inappropriate for any contributions to be accepted or processed by him or members of his staff.

President Ford trusts that you will appreciate the reason for returning your contribution to you with this letter. In view, however, of your already expressed interest, you may very well wish to make payment directly to [RSCC] [RNC]. (address) Your support would be most welcome.

For the general contribution letter, eliminate the second sentence of the first paragraph; type remainder of the letter. In the final paragraph, "you may very well wish to make payment directly to the Republican National Committee at address .



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. Paul Theris
stopped by
to see if you
had had a
chance to look
at this. They
have quite a few
checks accumulating.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. Hartmann
wants to talk
with you
about this.



OK
PAT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 27, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN

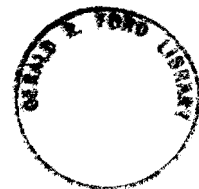
VIA: PAUL THEIS

FROM: ROLAND L. ELLIOTT *RE*

When President Ford was Vice President, a form letter was sent over his signature soliciting contributions for the Senatorial Campaign Committee and the Republican National Committee. Some of these contributions, however, are being sent back directly to the President. Traditionally, the White House has not accepted nor acted as a conduit for political contributions. With this in mind, we have prepared several drafts of letters to be used to return the contributions to the senders and suggesting that they may wish to forward their donations to the appropriate Committee. This is to request your authorization to proceed in this manner.

Many thanks.

Attachments



sev

*contribution for Republican Senatorial Campaign

Dear //////////////:

On behalf of President Ford, I ~~want to~~ acknowledge

*and thank you very much
with thanks*

kind
your message with its enclosure. Needless to say,

the President appreciates *support and your* generous response

to the letter which was sent to you prior to his

inauguration. However, since White House tradition

does not permit acceptance of contributions, your

donation must be returned. You may want to *forward* ~~send~~

it directly to the Republican *Senatorial Campaign* ~~National~~ Committee at

300
~~315~~ First Street, SE., Washington, D.C. 20003.

~~With President Ford's best wishes,~~

Sincerely,

RLE

Encl:



Dear // // // // //:

President Ford appreciated your kind message of congratulations and good wishes. ~~(As the President has said, he wants to serve America to the best of his ability and he is grateful for your support in these efforts.~~

Needless to say, the President also appreciated your generous response to the letter which was sent to you prior to his inauguration. However, since White House tradition does not permit acceptance of contributions, your donation must be returned.

You may want to send it directly to the Republican National Committee at 310 First Street, SE., Washington, D. C. 20003.

~~With President Ford's best wishes,~~

Sincerely,

RLE

Encl:



sev

*general contribution

Dear //://://://://:

On behalf of President Ford, I want to acknowledge *with Thanks*

your message with its enclosure. Needless to say,

support and your support.
the President appreciates your generous spirit. However,

since White House tradition does not permit acceptance

of contributions, your donation must be returned.

Forward
You may want to ~~send~~ it directly to the Republican

National Committee at 310 First Street, SE.,

Washington, D.C. 20003.

~~With President Ford's best wishes,~~

Sincerely,

RLE

Encl:



sev

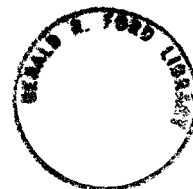
*support + general contribution

Dear // // // // //:

President Ford appreciated your kind message of congratulations and good wishes. As the President has said, he wants to serve America to the best of his ability and he is grateful for your support in these efforts.

Needless to say, the President also appreciated the goodwill and hearty spirit represented by the generous enclosure to your letter. However, since White House tradition does not permit acceptance of contributions, your donation must be returned.

You may want to send it directly to the Republican National Committee at 310 First Street, SE., Washington, D. C. 20003.



With President Ford's best wishes,

Sincerely,

RLE

Encl:

Eva:-

has Mr. B
act on this?



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 27, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR

Phil Buchen

FROM

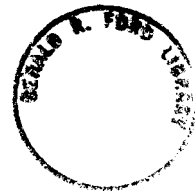
Bill Casselman



I understand that the President now has on his desk for signature a political fund raising letter on behalf of the Senate and House Campaign Committees. As Vice President, such letters were extremely effective. However, I seriously question whether the President should continue to engage in such activity.

We have encountered some administrative difficulties as a result of previous letters which has been the cause of some concern to the counsel's office.

To the best of my knowledge, no other President has signed political fund raising letters. (Of course, most Presidents have made numerous fund raising appearances at gala dinners, etc.)



Copy given to POH on 8/27

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 27, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR

Phil Buchen

FROM

Bill Casselman



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10/2/74

To: Don Rumsfeld

From: Phil Buchen

**Subject: Prohibition of Political Fund
Solicitation and Expenditure
on Federal Premises**

**I would like you to have the
opportunity to review this draft
and provide me with any recommenda-
tions you might like to make.**



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 10/1/74

TO: Phil Puckon

FROM: DUDLEY CHAPMAN

Draft per your request

RAC



MEMORANDUM TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE PRESIDENT

FROM: DONALD RUMSFELD

SUBJECT: Prohibition of Political Fund Solicitation and
Expenditure on Federal Premises

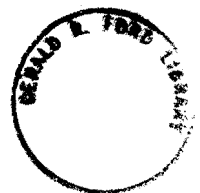
Counsel to the President has urged that every employee on the White House staff be alerted that it is a criminal violation for any employee "directly or indirectly, " to solicit or receive" any contribution of money or other thing of value for any political purpose" if done "in any room or building occupied in the discharge of official duties." (18USC 603) This prohibition applies to every "officer or employee of the United States or any department or agency thereof, or a person receiving any salary or compensation for services from money derived from the Treasury of the United States." It also applies to Senators, Representatives, candidates for Congress, and others.

It is therefore essential that all staff members and other employees of the Executive Office conduct themselves in such a way that there can be no question of even inadvertant violations. No one should even discuss fund raising plans or operations while on federal premises, or when writing to or speaking by phone with someone who is on federal premises. No handling or possession of political funds, checks,



pledges, receipts or records of any kind should take place in any federal building. While these requirements in some respects go beyond the letter of the law, these precautions are warranted to assure that no one will be placed in a compromising situation.

Thank you for your cooperation.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 3, 1975

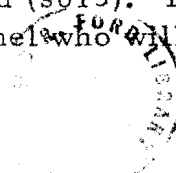


MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN
FROM: KEN LAZARUS *KL*
SUBJECT: Fund-raising letter by the President.

You asked me to explore any problems which might be presented should the President authorize the use of his signature on letters supporting the April 15 fund-raising dinner which will be conducted by House and Senate campaign committees.

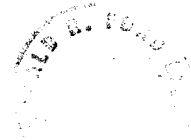
After discussing the matter with Congressman Michel, Jack Calkins and Bruce McBrarity (McBrarity is the fellow at the RNC who is actually managing the effort), I offer the following:

- (1) Although no legal problem is faced directly by the President's support of this fund-raiser, there may be merit in emphasizing the President's role as leader of the nation while de-emphasizing, at the moment, such visible partisan activity as a fund-raiser. I am told that this assignment is normally given to the Vice President or other political figure.
- (2) Apparently, the use of the President's signature would have real utility in support of the fund-raising effort that would result in more than a marginal increase benefit.
- (3) Assuming the President sees fit to grant this request, my concern is not so much with the content of the letter as with the ground rules for distribution. In this regard, Chapter 29 of Title 18 U.S.C. places a number of limitations upon solicitations for political contributions. Thus, one federal official cannot solicit a political contribution from another federal official (§602); a solicitation cannot be made on federal property (§603); a firm or individual contracting with the United States is prohibited from making political contributions (§611); and political contributions by agents of foreign principals are prohibited (§613). Bruce McBrarity has assured me that RNC personnel who will be managing



this program are sensitive to my concerns and that their procedures are adequate to avoid any proscribed activity or appearances of such activity.

(4) Although I have doubts about the advisability of the President's participation in this effort, I believe we have reasonable assurances to the effect that such participation will not expose the President to any unexpected adverse reaction.



Political

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL TEXT MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROBERT T. HARTMANN *RTH*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED LETTER OR MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO INVITEES TO THE REPUBLICAN SENATE-HOUSE DINNER APRIL 15.



Mr. O. C. Carmichael, the new Chairman of the Republican National Finance Committee, has proposed that the President sign a letter or telegram to be sent to past and prospective contributors to the annual \$1,000 per plate dinner, which this year will be held on April 15 at the Washington-Hilton. This year, the dinner is being managed by the RNFC, and the proceeds will be divided equally between the RNFC, the Senatorial Campaign Committee, and the House Campaign Committee.

Attached is the text suggested by Mr. Carmichael and RNC Chairman Mary Louise Smith. If approved, the text will be sent either by telegram or on "Gerald R. Ford" letterhead rather than White House stationery.

Please respond by 2:00 PM Tuesday, March 4.

CLEARED BY (Please initial)

- () OPERATIONS (Rumsfeld) _____
- () CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) _____
- () PRESS (Nessen) _____
- (✓) LEGAL (Buchen) *P.W.B.* See copy of attached memo. ✓
- () RESEARCH (Waldron) - What is precedent? _____
- () THE VICE PRESIDENT _____



DATE

Dear _____

Loyal Republicans have to stand up and be counted. There will be more elections; we will regain our strength. One way you can help us is by attending the Republican Senate-House Dinner on April 15, 1975. This worthwhile event can help build a base on which to assist our Senate and House candidates. If you have already responded, you can still help by encouraging others to follow suit and ^{take part in} ~~join us at~~ this gala affair.

Won't you join Vice President Rockefeller and me along with the other honored guests in showing our faith in the Republican Party this April 15?

Sincerely,



Gerald R. Ford

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN

FROM: KEN LAZARUS *KL*

SUBJECT: Fund-raising letter by the President.



You asked me to explore any problems which might be presented should the President authorize the use of his signature on letters supporting the April 15 fund-raising dinner which will be conducted by House and Senate campaign committees.

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this program are sensitive to my concerns and that their procedures are adequate to avoid any proscribed activity or appearances of such activity.

(4) Although I have doubts about the advisability of the President's participation in this effort, I believe we have reasonable assurances to the effect that such participation will not expose the President to any unexpected adverse reaction.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

RMC

September 24, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK CALKINS
FROM: PHIL BUCHEN *P.W.B.*
SUBJECT: Letter to Republican County Chairmen

Referencing your inquiry, the letter from the President to the Republican County Chairmen should use Gerald R. Ford rather than White House letterhead.

Benton Becker has suggested that the second sentence of the second paragraph is an unstatesmanlike statement for the President to make. It is the people, not the party, that is this country's hope for the future. He feels that the end result is little different than if it stated that only Republicans are patriots. I agree with Benton, but defer to you and Bob on this point.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 17, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: PHILIP BUCHEN, ESQUIRE

FROM: JACK CALKINS *gc*

The Republican National Committee is currently mounting a nationwide registration drive attempting to sign up an estimated ten million unregistered potential Republicans. As a part of that effort, they wish to send a letter signed by the President to each of approximately three thousand county chairmen throughout the nation. In order to facilitate and speed this effort, they will settle for a letter signed by the President which will then be offset printed and sent to each county chairman.

The question I wish your advice on is whether this letter can bear the White House letterhead. Text of the message is attached.

The RNC is anxious to move on this project, so I would appreciate your counsel as soon as possible.

Thank you.



September 16, 1975

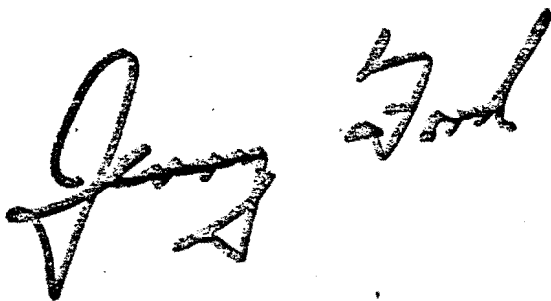
Dear County Chairman:

As leader of the Republican Party, I want to express my strong support of the efforts being made nationwide to register new Republicans, and to personally urge you and your county organization to take part in this drive.

I am sure I need not emphasize to someone with your political experience the importance of identifying and registering new Republicans. Our party is the hope of the future for our country, and we need to share it with as many people as accept our principles.

You can play a key role in this effort, and I hope you will do your very best to help.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "F".

*Ford's
Campaign*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK CALKINS
FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.W.B.*
SUBJECT: Proposed Sustaining Membership
Letter for the RNC

I agree with you that paragraph B is preferable. However, I suggest the last sentence of that paragraph be deleted. Its tone makes the President sound too much like the prize in a lottery, and it doesn't add to what has already been stated.

cc: Don Rumsfeld



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 30, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: DON RUMSFELD ✓
PHILIP BUCHEN ✓

FROM: JACK CALKINS *g*

SUBJECT: Proposed Sustaining Membership Letter
To Be Mailed By The Republican National
Committee In Early January

Attached are self-explanatory items for the proposed sustaining membership mailing which the Republican National Finance Committee intends to send to its entire file on January 1, 1976.

Your attention is drawn to the lined paragraph in the draft and the alternate Version B paragraph on the sheet following. Your comments on either paragraph are solicited. This office prefers Version B. Please note that Jerry Milbank requests an early response so we would appreciate your cooperation in this regard. Thank you.

cc: RTH

JTC/rg



Republican
National
Finance
Committee.

Chairman
Jeremiah Milbank

September 26, 1975

MEMORANDUM

TO: ROBERT T. HARTMANN
FROM: JEREMIAH MILBANK
SUBJECT: RNC FIRST RENEWAL FOR 1976

Attached is a draft of the copy we are planning to use in our first renewal mailing on January 1, 1976.

I would appreciate any comments or suggestions you may have and am requesting your specific approval of paragraph 5.

For your convenience, I have enclosed a possible option to paragraph 5. In addition, we do have a copy constraint which may necessitate some slight alteration of the final copy.

Unfortunately, our time restraints are very tight, and as a consequence, I would appreciate your response as soon as reasonably possible.

Thank you.

J. Milbank



The crucial 1976 Presidential and Congressional Elections will determine whether we are to have a continuation of the Democrats' big, liberal government policies -- big spending, big controls, big taxes -- or a return to moderate Republican government that has made America great. To help assure a balanced two-party system in 1976, your financial assistance is needed more urgently than ever before!

Based on your previous generous contributions, your suggested 1976 dues are shown above. If you can possibly give more, please do so. The National Republican Party has always depended on small contributors for its support. Over 80% of the money received in 1975 came from contributions of \$100 or less. Now, the new election laws make us even more dependent than ever before upon our Sustaining Members, so you can see how important it is that you continue your support.

This year, as a Sustaining Member, you will enjoy an even more vital role than in previous years. We plan to send you questionnaires from time to time to secure your views on key issues. Your opinions will be tabulated and passed on to the President, and Republican Senators and Congressmen for their guidance.

In addition, at periodic intervals, dues-paying Sustaining Members all over the country will be selected at random by our National Chairman to meet with the President for discussion of major issues and concerns, either in Washington or at such time as the President visits their region on his frequent trips. The President has expressed a deep interest in getting the frank opinions of representative Party Supporters. You may be one of the Sustaining Members who are selected to meet with him privately and personally!

As I am sure you appreciate, 1976 is a critical year for America. What happens in the 1976 elections will determine how all of us, including our children, live for years to come.

Accordingly, I look forward to receiving your 1976 contribution in the near future. The suggested amount is shown on the face of this letter.

In advance, I've enclosed your 1976 Membership Card. Please send in your contribution now; then place the card in your wallet as a symbol of your continuing important support of the National Republican Party and all it stands for!

Sincerely,



Jeremiah Milbank
Finance Chairman

It has long been President Ford's practice to seek the views of loyal and active Republican Party members across the breadth of our country. Such exchanges have given him the opportunity to evaluate concerns about major issues through the frank opinions of others expressed directly and personally to him. The National Committee through our Chairman plans to assist in arranging such meetings, and will at periodic intervals select at random Sustaining Members of our Party from around the country who will be invited to visit with the President either in Washington or at such times as the President visits their region on his ~~frequent~~ trips. You may well be one of those Sustaining Members selected to meet with him in such a constructive and interesting manner.

parts - building

prefer this



Saturday 10/4/75

1:15 Barry is leaving; will be at home around 3:30 and the rest of the evening.

He talked with Benton and will work with him on preparing comments on the RNC letter. He had forgotten that RNC letter was published in its entirety which is in the Federal Register, and as the PFC and DNC have ~~the~~ both done, I will call FEC General Counsel Murphy on Monday merely to request an extension of time to the 14th for comments on the letter. Benton is hopeful of gaining Reagan's support for our position some time next week and wants you to wait as long as possible.



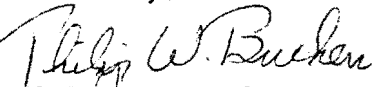
FEC

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 23, 1976

Dear Mr. Murphy:

In accordance with your recent conversation with Senator Stevens, I have enclosed a copy of the proposed fund-raising letter for the National Republican Senatorial Committee.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

John G. Murphy, Esq.
General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, D.C. 20463

Dear :

I am writing to you to make a personal appeal on behalf of our Republican candidates to the United States Senate. They need your help and support.

In my State of the Union Message, I stressed the need for courage and common sense in dealing with the problems we face in 1976 and in the years ahead. Never in the history of our Nation has there been a greater need for fiscal responsibility or for Senators who have the courage to pursue it. Never has it been more important to continue our sound economic policies, to insure less government intervention into our daily lives; or to protect the individual freedoms of all Americans. Republican Senators with the common sense to recognize these crucial needs must be elected.

I have seen the strengths of the Republican candidates who are challenging Democrat incumbents in 1976 and I believe these are the best candidates we have ever had. Senator Ted Stevens, Chairman of the Campaign Committee, gives me periodic reports on the status of the races and the chances for winning are good. Your personal pledge can make victory in November a reality.

The National Republican Senatorial Committee needs your support. Your dollars will allow the Committee to continue providing the valuable services and campaign contributions that our candidates count on to achieve success. It is my sincere hope that you will generously support the Senatorial Committee in this effort. Your decision to provide assistance to elect Republican Senators can make 1976 the year we rededicate ourselves to the cherished principles and ideals that have made us the greatest Nation on earth.

I thank you in advance for your help.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

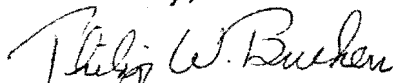
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PFC

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I thank you in advance for your help.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHIL BUCHEN

FROM: BARRY ROTH *BR*

SUBJECT: Campaign Letter for the
Michigan Republican Party

Bob Visser has advised Peter Boggs (333-6600) of the mailing firm handling the above-referenced letter for the Michigan Party that the letter is ok, but that once the President is nominated, a portion of the mailing costs must be borne by the PFC. This portion will be calculated following the Convention. (In the event the President is not nominated, the Michigan Party could pay for the entire cost of mailing.)

I spoke with Boggs this morning and indicated to him that it was also necessary to include a disclaimer indicating that this correspondence is not intended for federal employees or persons having matters pending before federal regulatory or administrative agencies. Boggs advised that the letters had already been prepared but that the disclaimer would be placed on the response card as was done by the Congressional Campaign Committee and the PFC.

I believe you should talk with Dick Cheney to make sure that in the future there is a mechanism for review of such letters by our office as well as Bob Visser prior to final approval. Jim Fields has just called to indicate that he has several requests for such letters from the President and that he will route them through our office before a political decision is made whether to do each individual letter.

cc: Ed Schmults



8/8/76

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Tell Barry to
follow up on this
matter, involving
a proposed letter
to be sent over
President's signature
by the Republican
Party in Michigan

JL

Today, I leave for Kansas City and the Republican National Convention. But before I go I wanted to write to you about a matter that is of great importance to me.

With only a few weeks to go until the election, we all have much to do to score a Republican victory.

Beginning my campaign across America, I am reminded of the many times I ran for office in Michigan. I am very appreciative of the work and help which thousands of individuals like yourself gave to my effort. Now, I ask that you once again help the Republican Party in our state.

Since Michigan is my home state, I'm hoping everyone there makes a major effort this Fall. I'm asking every Republican to step forward and help, because I want and need to have Michigan in the Republican column on election day.

There are many important campaigns this Fall, including the United States Senate and House elections, as well as critical state legislative races that need to be won. There are many other local, county and state offices which are at stake this Fall.

My good friend Bill McLaughlin, the Chairman of the Michigan Republican Party has outlined to me an ambitious plan to give us victory in November. He will run a good, responsible and effective campaign this Fall -- if he has the money to do it.

Jay Van Andel, the Party's Finance Chairman, has shown me the support he has had from more than 5,000 concerned citizens like yourself -- but he is still far short of his goal for this campaign.

Bill and Jay need your help -- so that they can help the entire Republican ticket. We need advertising, printing, travel, telephones, and all the other elements of a good campaign. We can only have them if you help.

In the past you have generously helped the Republican Party in Michigan. Because of the importance of the campaigns in Michigan, I ask that you give once more -- and hopefully you'll be able to give more than usual. If you are accustomed to giving \$15, will you consider \$30? If you usually give \$25, will you give \$50?

Our chance for a great victory in Michigan, and one that would make me so pleased personally, is possible only if we double our usual efforts. We all must make the maximum effort possible, if we are to succeed.



You can count on me to make the maximum effort possible, and I hope I can count on you.

Please respond directly to Jay; he will keep me up-to-date on the success of our campaign.

Many personal thanks for your continuing support and loyalty.

Sincerely,

Gerald Ford

P.S. Jay tells me that if 2,500 individuals responded with a contribution of just \$30, he believes the campaign would have the funds required for a great victory in November. Let's all pull together, and make an investment today in that victory. Let's not miss our opportunity for a lack of funds.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8/8/76

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