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PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT/CANNON/  
LYNN

Meeting

July 24, 1975

2:30 p.m.

The Oval Office



THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON

July 24, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: THE VICE PRESIDENT

I have reviewed a draft of a staff memo which deals with the question of implementing the recommendations of the Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States.

The memo suggests that you postpone consideration of whether to implement some of the major recommendations of the CIA Commission until you have considered a number of other questions, including whether to reorganize the intelligence agencies of the Government in a major way.

I do not believe that anything revealed so far about the CIA or the other intelligence agencies justifies a major reorganization of this area, and I am concerned that extended consideration of this option by your Administration will result in the loss of the initiative -- which is now with you -- to act firmly in reforming the CIA along lines suggested in the report of the CIA Commission.

It seems to me that unless the Administration moves quickly to present its own program, it will have lost the opportunity to forestall more sweeping Congressional action in this area. When that Congressional action comes, it is bound to be much broader in scope than the Administration would want, and might occur in a supercharged atmosphere which would not be conducive to the weighing of individual privacy rights against the needs of national security.

As it has done before, Congress may act precipitously, with consideration given only to the politics of its actions, and place you in the position of vetoing legislation which will be presented as protecting the rights of the individual.



Those who oppose taking action now argue that Congressional investigations are underway, and that the members of these investigating groups (and especially the Republicans) will be upset by a move to implement the CIA Commission's recommendations before the Congressional inquiries are completed.

This may be true, but it is a cost which I believe must be weighed against the dangers of handing the initiative on this issue to Congress.



# THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 24, 1975

## WEEKLY DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT

### 1. Voting Rights

Another amendment is up today to make the Voting Rights Act apply nationwide, this one by Senator Morgan of North Carolina. Ed Levi has told Hugh Scott that this Amendment "raises serious Constitutional questions." Dick Parsons and Ken Lazarus are on the Hill, working with Bill Kendall and Pat O'Donnell. Clarence Mitchell told me again this morning how much he appreciates your efforts to get the Act extended. The expectation now is that the Senate will pass an extension on Friday or Saturday.

### 2. Domestic Council Staff Budget

Senator Montoya would not increase, in his subcommittee's markup, the Domestic Council budget. He must hold hearings, he told me, because some Senators remember John Ehrlichmann vividly and are suspicious of the Domestic Council. Montoya is including in the subcommittee report language indicating the Domestic Council needs more staff and suggests we send up a supplemental request.

### 3. Crime Legislation

Senator Hruska told Jack Marsh on the Sequoia last night that he would welcome a meeting with Attorney General Levi on the Crime Bills. Levi, with whom I talked this morning, will go up to see Hruska with these objectives:

- a. Try once more to persuade Hruska to introduce your bills.
- b. If Hruska declines, then let us know so that you can make a decision on whether any changes should be made or the bills introduced by others in the Senate and House.

4. Auto Emissions

A decision memo is being prepared for you on the question of sending legislation to the Hill to implement your June 27 recommendation freezing the current standards through 1981. The current outlook for all major clean air amendments that we have proposed is bleak. The only way we have to combat this at this time is to request hearings by the full Senate and House committees on your proposal.

5. Midwest Governors' Conference

The Midwest Governors' Conference which concluded yesterday in Cincinnati was very successful from our perspective. The Vice President and Don Rumsfeld addressed the Conference and were well received. The policy positions adopted were largely supportive on energy and the economy, although there was significant criticism of HEW social service regulations and a call for a repeal of the health planning bill that was enacted last December.

Rhodes' estimate of the six Midwest Republican Governors attending:

Jim Rhodes--Strong for Ford and Rockefeller  
Bill Milliken--Strong for Ford and Rockefeller  
Bob Ray--Strong for Ford and Rockefeller  
Kit Bond--Strong for Ford and Rockefeller

Otis Bowen--Leaning to Ford, but still interested in  
Reagan

Robert Bennett--Leaning to Ford, but still interested in  
Reagan

6. Science and Technology Advisor

Teague and Mosher have tentatively agreed on a bill which would:

- a. state a national science policy
- b. create an office of Science and Technology Policy with a Director and up to 4 assistant directors at Level III salaries
- c. call for a Presidential appointed committee of 5 to 12 members to do a 15-month review of science and technology policies programs and organization.

We expect to have the bill itself next week at which time we will ask for comments. The House Science and Technology Committee expects to mark up the bill on September 9.

THE WHITE HOUSE

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