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WASHINGTON

# JAN 21 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

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ROY L. ASH

SUBJECT:

Congressman Rhodes' request for the FY 1976 Central Arizona Project funding level

Congressman Rhodes has asked me to provide him with the amount to be included in the FY 1976 budget for the Central Arizona Project. I have been unwilling to give Congressman Rhodes the Central Arizona Project funding level in your FY 1976 budget in advance of its transmittal to the Congress on February 3, based on long-standing budget policy on the privileged nature of budget data. To provide Mr. Rhodes with the FY 1976 funding level for the Central Arizona Project in advance, if it becomes known, would immediately result in similar requests from other Congressmen with an equally strong desire to obtain advance budget data on their favorite project. I wanted you to be aware of this, however, in the event you want to depart from disclosure policy in this case. The facts on the project are as follows.

The Central Arizona Project will provide an irrigation, municipal and industrial water supply to the Phoenix area by diverting water from the Colorado River through an aqueduct over 200 miles long. The project received a \$23.0 million appropriation in FY 1975, of which \$2.5 million was deferred. Two major construction contracts will be awarded in FY 1975 for the main Granite Reef Aqueduct and the FY 1976 budget will include \$29.2 million to continue all ongoing work and also provide for additional contracts. The July 1 to September 30 transition quarter request will provide \$8.8 million to continue construction progress. With this 1976 funding, the anticipated date for delivery of water to Phoenix is January 1985. This schedule permits a rapid construction program and the 1976 budget level should be "good news" to Mr. Rhodes.



#### THE WHITE HOUSE

#### WASHINGTON

### January 21, 1975

# ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

JACK MARSH	1-1-1
JERRY HIS	Sse)
bard	in Comments

The attached memorandum was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation to you:

-- Your suggestion?

You should note that the President requested this information be transmitted to you before your meeting with him tomorrow morning.

Thank you.

