The original documents are located in Box C13, folder "Presidential Handwriting, 3/8/1975(1)" of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 8, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DONALD RUMSFELD

FROM: WILLIAM N. WALKER

SUBJECT: Under Secretary of HEW

Secretary Weinberger is becoming increasingly impatient about filling the Under Secretary post. He told me in a conversation yesterday that he plans to call you on the subject.

You will recall that he has proposed two candidates: Bill Morrill, a Democrat and currently an Assistant Secretary and Dick Friedman currently Regional HEW Director in Chicago, formerly the Republican candidate for Mayor of Chicago in 1971 and prior to that a Democrat who served in the Kerner Administration.

I have advised the Secretary that you are aware of the importance of filling this position but that you are not ready to make a decision yet. I did not discuss with him the possibility of Phil Areeda, which is now moot.

He is also anxious to fill three other vacancies: Director of NIE (which you decided yesterday), Assistant Secretary for Health and Director of the National Institutes of Health. We are very close to the decision point on the last two.

I pass this along for information in the event he calls you.