

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

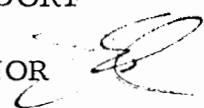
November 19, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM:

JAMES E. CONNOR 

SUBJECT:

Rhodesian Chrome

The President reviewed your memorandum of November 15 on the above subject and approved your recommendation. The following notation was also added:

"Better explain this to John Buchanan
and Fraser."

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney

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Max / Better explain
this to John Buchanan
& Francis

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November 15,

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *m.f.*

SUBJECT: Rhodesian Chrome

At the President's request, following the recent Presidential meeting with Congressmen Fraser, Buchanan and Senator McGee, our House staff has checked on the possibility of reviving the Byrd Amendment issue and possibly switching votes.

I am attaching a report from Vern Loen which indicates that there are basically only four possible pick-ups on the Republican side and that the House Republican leaders including Rhodes, Michel and Broomfield are very reluctant to reopen this issue.

I recommend that I get back to Fraser and Buchanan and indicate to them that we should put off until next year any possible attempt to revive this issue in the House.

Approve

m.f.

Disapprove

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November 14, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: VERN LOEN *VL*
SUBJECT: Rhodesian Chrome bill

We have checked most of the Republicans listed on the Fraser-Buchanan memorandum of November 4 concerning possible switches in their positions. We have also checked most of the Republican absentees.

Rhodes and Michel have expressed an extreme reluctance to change their position in opposition to re-imposing the embargo on Rhodesian Chrome, even if lifting the embargo were made discriminatory with the President.

The twelve (12) Republicans who had been counted upon as being favorable to the bill would find it difficult to change their "no" votes and are hopeful the issue will not reappear. Likewise with the four (4) Republicans (Cleveland, Fish, O'Brien and Vander Jagt) who had shown some sympathy toward the UN sanctions in the past.

The four (4) Republicans counted as firm supporters (Brown of Ohio, Erlenborn, Fenwick and Heckler of Massachusetts) who were absent on September 25 would have voted in favor of the bill.

Broomfield was alarmed and adamant when approached about whether he would change his position. He is absolutely opposed to any bill to nullify the Byrd amendment. Likewise with all the other Republican absentees, most of whom are extreme conservatives.

In summary, we found the very mention of renewing this issue to be a red flag among Republican Members and would predict that a new bill would meet the same fate as the last one. H.R. 1287 was defeated in the House on September 25 by a vote of 187-209. Except for the four (4) absentee Republicans who would have voted "yes," the necessary votes would have to come from the Democratic side where there are 29 target absentees.