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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 8/31

TO: Jim Ammon
FROM: TERRY O'DONNELL

Copies of these might be helpful
to Dave Bengam for G+A
materials for P's next Press Conf.

Flash
~~URGENT~~

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

August 27, 1976

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JW

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD B. CHENEY

FROM: WILLIAM F. GOROG

SUBJECT: Suggested Language for Use by the President concerning Democratic Position on Grain Exports and Price Controls

"Over the past two days, candidate Carter has changed his position on grain exports and embargoes almost every hour. First, he told the people of Des Moines, Iowa that he would stop grain embargoes once and for all. Only an hour later, he told reporters that he would not rule out the use of embargoes, claiming also that he cannot be responsible for every detail of his speeches.

I do plan to be held responsible for what I say, and I suggest the American people should hold Mr. Carter responsible for his statements. What is his position? He tells the people one thing, the press another. At the same time, Carter and his Democrat friends in the Congress fully endorse the Humphrey-Hawkins Bill. In that document, they call for the use of 'an export licensing mechanism for food' at certain times. They also call for the use of stockpiles to control the price of grains as the government sees fit.

Then he tells us that he would take grain prices out of the hands of the speculators and put it in the hands of those who know the American farmer. Who would he give control of grain prices to? Does he mean he would remove farm prices from the natural movements of the free market system? I do not believe the American farmer wants grain prices put in anyone's hands. My Administration understands this message; we have eliminated stockpiles as a way of getting the Federal government out of the business of the farmer. And we intend, with the help of Earl Butz, to continue to get the Federal government out of the business of controlling prices and exports. We will leave that to the farmers."

In event that the President is challenged about his position and statements by Dole, he might add:

TO MAKE MY POSITION EXPLICIT, THE ONLY CONDITION UNDER WHICH I WOULD CONSIDER EXPORT CONTROL WOULD BE IN THE CASE OF A NATIONAL DISASTER WHERE THE PUBLIC WELFARE IS AT STAKE. I WILL NOT, UNDER ANY CONDITIONS, PROPOSE STOCKPILING, EXPORT LICENSING, OR GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF GRAIN PRICES AS PROPOSED BY THE DEMOCRAT PLATFORM AND THE HUMPHREY/HAWKINS BILL.

*cc to Agnes Watdrow
for briefing books.*

1 naturally tight markets, with particular emphasis on in-
2 creasing the supply of food and energy;

3 " (4) provision for an export licensing mechanism
4 for food and other critical materials when the national
5 well-being is threatened because projected supplies are
6 inadequate to meet domestic needs without drastically
7 increasing prices, and the establishment of stockpile
8 reserves of food and other critical materials in order
9 to meet emergencies such as floods and famines and to
10 maintain reasonable price stability and adequate farm
11 income;

12 " (5) encouragement to labor and management to
13 increase productivity within the national framework of
14 full employment through voluntary arrangements in
15 industries and economic sectors;

16 " (6) recommendations to strengthen and enforce
17 the antitrust laws and such other recommendations as
18 are necessary to increase competition in the private
19 sector; and

20 " (7) recommendations for administrative and legis-
21 lative actions to promote reasonable price stability if
22 situations develop that seriously threaten national price
23 stability.

reference added

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FROM: JAMES CONNOR

TO: DICK CHENEY

INFO:

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