

The original documents are located in Box 129, folder “Hartmann, Robert (1)” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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HARTMANN INTERVIEW IN N Y DAILY NEWS

Q: Bob Hartmann told the New York Daily News that **the former President had assured Mr. Ford that he was innocent.** Is that true?

A: Mr. Ford talked to the former President many times over a period of months. He was assured repeatedly in those conversations that the former President **was not involved in the Watergate cover-up.**

Q: Yeah, but Hartmann says Nixon told him there was nothing **incriminating on the tapes.**

A: The President does not recall any direct reference to tapes or transcripts.

Q: The New York Daily News says the President was told the weekend before the resignation that some incriminating new evidence and shocking evidence was going to come out on tapes. If he knew that, **how come he went down to Mississippi and New Orleans and still said that the President was innocent?**

A: The President was only told in very general terms that there was some more damaging evidence to come out. **My** recollection -- I was there as a reporter -- was that at the news conferences in Mississippi and New Orleans President Ford was careful to qualify his statement by saying that based on what he had heard and read in the evidence, he did not believe President Nixon was guilty of an impeachable offense.



RN --

Phil Shabecoff said, (when I told him Hartmann was not the man to talk to)

But I want to know about the current relationship
between the two men -- NOW -- so I need to talk
with someone in the White House

connie
7:25 pm

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1-2-5

NOTE FOR: Bob Hartmann

FROM: TOM DECAIR

Ron thinks if at all possible
you should try to give Phil
Shabecoff of the ~~NY~~ NY Times
a few minutes this afternoon
or tomorrow morning. Ron
thinks the project he's
working on is worthy of your
input. (But I don't know
what it is.)

Thanks.

1-2-5
1-2-5
1-2-5

September 25, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN

FROM: RON NESSEN

I have telephoned Mr. Parker and given him all the information contained in these documents. He seemed satisfied, and no further action is required.

Based on my talk with him, I got the idea that he is attempting to put together an article on the decision to increase price supports by the Nixon Administration.

RN/cg



October 2, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR BOB HARTMANN

FROM: RON NESSEN

In response to your request, the role I plan to play in the Voluntary Inflation Fighter program is to follow up on the President's invitation to house wives to send in their lists of ten ideas for fighting inflation.

I have already instructed a member of my staff to keep in touch with the mail room. As soon as a sufficient number of these lists have come in, I plan to show a sampling of them to the press, and perhaps allow the press to do some filming in the mail room.

I also plan to show a sampling to the President if that seems appropriate, and to allow photos of the President looking over the lists, if he desires.

RN/cg



October 8, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DON RUMSFELD
BOB HARTMANN ✓
WARREN RUSTAND

FROM:

RON NESSEN

I was requested to find out if there would be any major conflict if the President made a televised speech from Kansas City Tuesday, October 15, at 10 o'clock Eastern time.

There would be a conflict -- the third game of the world series begins at 8:15 Eastern time that night, and probably would not be over by 10 p.m.

If you do want to make a televised speech that night, I suggest that it could be done at 7:30 Eastern time (6:30 Kansas City time). We could have an unusually large audience which would be waiting for the baseball game to start. The TV networks would almost be obligated to fill out the remainder of the time after the speech with commentary until the start of the game at 8:15 p.m.

RN/cg



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 8, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: RUSS FREEBURG
 BOB HARTMANN ✓

FROM: RON NESSEN

The Press Office has been inundated with public requests for WIN buttons just within the first hour after the speech.

I don't know what plans you have for public or private printing and distribution of these buttons, but in order to capitalize to the maximum on the obvious public response to the President's appeal for public participation in the inflation and energy fights, I urge that a minimum of 20,000 WIN buttons be printed immediately -- overnight, if possible.

October 14, 1974

MEMORANDUM TO: BOB HARTMANN

FROM: RON NESSEN

I have tried to follow the practice of neither encouraging nor discouraging any White House senior staff member from doing interviews or TV appearances.

Based on some recent columns and articles, you would be likely to get a pretty rough going over on this TV interview about reports that the White House staff is disorganized and that the speechwriting procedure is in disarray.

Other than that, I leave it to your own judgment.



Ron - Is this the new pecking order? BJA

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH RON NESSEN

AT 11:45 A.M. EST

NOVEMBER 6, 1974

WEDNESDAY

MR. NESSEN: As I told some of you, or as some of you know, the President stayed in the Oval Office until shortly before 1:30 this morning watching the returns on television. He had Mrs. Ford there and Susan, and the dog, Janet Ford, Jack Stiles, Jim Brown, Rick Sardo, and Hartmann, and Rumsfeld, and myself, David Kennerly and his date.

As I have tried to tell some of you, there was no mood of a wake at all. There wasn't any depression or gloom. There were a lot of smiles and some jokes and laughs.

Q Would you call that insensitivity?
(Laughter)

MR. NESSEN: I don't think so, Peter.

The results didn't come as any great surprise. All of you have been reporting for a long time how it was going to turn out. The President has been in politics 26 years. He has seen good years and bad years, and this was one of the bad years.

I said to him this morning when I went in, if we had a party like that for a losing year, what is it going to be like if we have a winning year? And that really was the mood, and I am not kidding about that, and I think everybody who was there would tell you that.

During the course of the evening, one of the TV -- there were four TV sets in the office, and three of them were tuned to the network coverage. One of them was tuned to the movie and, you know, some people paid attention to the movie, seriously, and joked about things that were happening in the movie. I am just trying to give you a feel --

Q What was the movie?

MR. NESSEN: I don't know. At 1:00 some picture came on with the Supremes, a musical movie.



[1974]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

From: Robert T. Hartmann

To: Ron Nessen

Date: 12/10 Time _____ a.m.
p.m.

I would like this
to be used as my
official biography
when they are
requested from your
office.

[Signature]

ROBERT T. HARTMANN
Counsellor to the President

Biographical Data

Robert Trowbridge Hartmann has combined in his career the perspective of three professions: Government official, newspaperman and wartime Naval officer.

Born April 8, 1917, in Rapid City, South Dakota, the son of Dr. Miner L. Hartmann, a chemical engineer and patent attorney now residing in Beverly Hills, California, and the late Elizabeth Trowbridge Hartmann (d. 1964), he spent his youth in upstate New York and California, and was graduated from Stanford University in 1938. Since 1954 he has been a resident of Montgomery County, Maryland.

During World War II he served in the Pacific on the staffs of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and Admiral William F. Halsey, rising from the grade of Ensign to Lieutenant Commander, USNR. He retired in 1973 from the ready U.S. Naval Reserve with the rank of Captain.

After the war he returned to the staff of the Los Angeles Times as a reporter and in 1948 became its youngest editorial writer. As a winner of an Ogden Reid Foundation Fellowship in 1951 he covered the Middle East, based in Beirut, Lebanon. In 1954 Mr. Hartmann was named Chief of the Los Angeles Times' Washington Bureau, and during the next decade covered Congress, the White House, and the global travels of Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy and Vice President Nixon. He won the 1958 national Distinguished Service Award of Sigma Delta Chi, the Society of Professional Journalists, for the

year's best Washington Correspondence. He also won the Overseas Press Club of America's 1961 citation for the best series on Latin America and a number of other journalistic honors during his 25 year career as a newsman. In 1963 and 1964 he established and headed his paper's Mediterranean and Middle East Bureau based in Rome, Italy. Returning to Washington as North American information chief for the international Food and Agriculture Organization, he joined the professional staff of the Republican Conference of the U.S. House of Representatives a year after Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.) was elected Minority Leader, and was elected Minority Sergeant-at-Arms of the House for the 91st, 92nd and 93rd Congresses. Concurrently, he served as Mr. Ford's Legislative Assistant.

During his career on Capitol Hill, Mr. Hartmann served as Assistant to the Permanent Chairman (Rep. Ford) of the 1968 and 1972 Republican National Conventions and was a staff member of the first House of Representatives mission to the People's Republic of China in 1972. He was head of RAMS, an organization of senior Republican Congressional aides, in 1972.

When Rep. Ford became Vice President of the United States on December 6, 1973, he named Mr. Hartmann his chief of staff. The first appointment made by President Ford upon assuming office August 9, 1974, was to designate his longtime assistant as Counsellor to the President with Cabinet rank. His primary responsibilities are in the area of politics and Presidential statements and speeches. He accompanied the President throughout the 1974 campaign and on his travels to Japan, Korea and the Soviet Union in November, 1974.

Mr. Hartmann is a member of the Navy League, Military Order of the Carabao, International Club of Washington, National Press Club, Capitol Hill Club, Sigma Delta Chi, Delta Chi, Delta Sigma Rho, Hammer & Coffin Society, Stanford Club of Washington, and the Oceanic Educational Foundation.

He married the former Roberta Sankey January 17, 1943. They have two children, Roberta (Mrs. Charles Frederick Brake) of Louisville, Ky., and Robert Sankey Hartmann of Westgate, Md., and two grandchildren, Stephen Lyle and Julie Brake. The Hartmanns are members of the Church of Christ.

#



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 18, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*

For your amusement and possible use, here is the material you requested on Hubert Humphrey's recent statements concerning the urgency of the tax cut.

The first page is the Congressional Record transcript of Humphrey's TV answer to your State of the Union speech. Humphrey said Congress "can and must" approve a tax cut in 30 days. The date he said that was January 22.

The second page contains excerpts from Humphrey's appearance on Meet the Press 25 days later. He says Congress must pass a tax cut within 30 days!

I am sending a copy to Rumsfeld, Marsh, and ~~Hartmann~~. ✓



to our economy and prosperity to our people.

I outlined specific steps to deal with high interest rates, inflation, the housing depression, and, most importantly, unemployment.

Mr. President, Congress must take the lead, in cooperation with the President, in forging a national economic policy that will break the back of recession and put America back to work.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of my response to President Ford be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

**REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY,
RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT'S ENERGY, ECONOMIC
MESSAGE, JANUARY 22, 1975, BROADCAST ON
CBS-TV**

Good evening.

If it were possible for you to talk with me tonight, I think I know what you'd probably say.

"No more speeches, Mr. Humphrey. In the past months all we've heard are words. What we want is some action."

Well if that's your message to me, I hear you loud and clear.

Both Congress and the President have wasted valuable time in getting our economy soundly on the road to recovery. There's no sense denying it. And it's futile arguing over who's more to blame.

We can't change the past. But if you can stand one more speech, I believe you'll be surprised to learn what Congress is planning for the immediate future . . . the decisive action that is long overdue.

I can report broad agreement among Congress and the President as to the need for an individual and corporate tax cut—to stimulate purchasing power, to accelerate business investment, to lower unemployment, to restore economic growth. Moreover, this tax cut can be a reality within four to six weeks.

Until the President's remarks last week, our country was like a seriously ill person whose doctors in the Executive Branch and Congress could agree on neither the diagnosis of the illness nor the proper treatment. President Ford initially proposed a curious remedy—his five-percent surtax. A tax increase in the midst of recession would have bled the country of its economic strength, weakening the patient still further.

Fortunately, Congress rejected this remedy. But while the doctors were arguing over the cure, the patient's health deteriorated rapidly.

At last, the doctors agreed on the source of the disease—the most serious recession since World War II—and at least part of the proper treatment—a large dose of economic penicillin in the form of tax cuts to bring the patient back to full health and normal activity.

The first action of this Congress must be a tax reduction for individuals and business. This can and must be done in the next 30 days.

We have now only to decide on the size and frequency of the tax cut and—most importantly—who gets the benefits.

Under the President's tax cut plan, a family of four with an income of \$10,000 a year would receive only \$100. Under a bill I have introduced the same family of four would receive a tax cut of \$300.

President Ford's tax cut puts 43 percent of the benefits into the hands of the richest 17 percent of the population. This is not only unfair, it is bad economics because it will not stimulate the economy. Congress will not accept the President's plan.

I recommend an overall tax cut of about \$20 billion. While some people may consider

this too much, they should recall that in 1964 the Congress cut taxes by about \$12 billion—when the economy was smaller and the recession less severe. In today's economy, that would be equal to a tax cut of about \$26 billion.

If economic penicillin is needed to combat the recession, then we should prescribe a dose large enough to help the patient. And we cannot afford to wait until May and September to get extra money into your pocketbook, as the President advocates. Instead, Congress should provide a reduction of withholding rates, retroactive to January 1, 1975, to increase your take-home pay and to keep it coming on a weekly basis.

The tax cut I have proposed would reduce taxes by 61 percent for those earning under \$5,000, by 32 percent for families with incomes ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000, by 21 percent for those earning from \$10,000 to \$15,000, and by 16 percent for taxpayers with \$15,000 to \$20,000 incomes.

In addition to these individual tax cuts, business and farms need an increased investment tax credit—to provide new buildings, new machinery and equipment, and most importantly, new jobs. On this issue the President and the majority of Democrats stand together.

Next, the Congress should turn its attention to tax reform to provide greater fairness in our tax structure. By this, I mean phasing out the oil depletion allowance, strengthening the minimum tax to ensure that the rich pay their share, and eliminating foreign tax preferences that send jobs and capital abroad. And there are many more.

People have a right to expect that the tax laws will be fair.

Prompt action on a tax cut is only the first step on the Congressional agenda. Six and one-half million persons are presently out of work and that number will surely increase. One thing is certain: a tax cut is of little direct help to a person without a job.

In Congress, Democrats and Republicans alike, are committed to putting more people to work, to getting them off unemployment lines and into jobs where they can support their families and pay their share of taxes.

What America needs are jobs, not "Win" buttons. What Americans want is work, not welfare.

On its own initiative, Congress passed an expanded public service employment program providing 800,000 jobs in hospitals, schools, day-care centers, and other public facilities. Since this program was passed in December, half a million more people have become unemployed.

This simply means that more must be done. Democrats propose that Congress immediately authorize an additional 500,000 public service jobs. And an additional 250,000 jobs for each one-half percentage point rise in the unemployment rate.

Yes, I know that this will cost money, but it costs more to have people unemployed. When you're working, you're producing—you're both a consumer and a taxpayer—you're self-sufficient.

Unemployment is not only the loss of a job and income; it is being told you are not needed. This violates the promise of America.

The President has said that he will veto any new federal spending. He proposed that those on social security shall not receive more than a five percent increase in benefits, even though the cost of living has increased by 12 percent. Those on fixed incomes—the elderly, the blind, and the disabled—have suffered the most from inflation. To deny them an increase in benefits equal to the rise in the cost of living is wrong and unacceptable. The Congress will not permit it.

There is no sense punishing people who rely on a small social security check, or raising the price of food stamps for people who are already struggling to feed their families.

Congress is no less concerned than the

President over the growth in federal spending and in controlling a large and wasteful bureaucracy. Last year, for example, we cut the President's budget requests by \$5 billion.

There is one basic reason for the record-breaking deficits that have accumulated since 1969.

On two occasions, in 1969-70 and 1973-74, former President Nixon attempted to control inflation by slowing down economic growth. During these deliberately-engineered recessions, as production declined, incomes also went down, profits fell, people lost their jobs and, as a result, federal tax receipts dropped sharply. Unemployed workers and businessmen and farmers operating at a loss don't pay taxes.

In these recession years, the federal deficit grew by leaps and bounds. In just this year and the next we can expect a federal deficit of \$80 billion. This is frightening.

The way to end these deficits is to get the economy moving—to get people back to work and business to invest. And we can do this with a prompt tax cut, sensible federal spending, and ample credit with lower interest rates.

These are among the major items on the Congressional economic agenda. They will offer each of you a greater measure of security as America begins the long period of economic recovery. But lasting economic health is impossible unless wise actions are taken in several additional areas.

First, let me discuss money and credit. Tight money and high interest rates have not halted inflation. They have added to it. That's obvious to everyone. But they have choked off economic growth, brought homebuilding to a virtual halt, increased bankruptcies among businessmen and farmers, and created havoc in our capital markets.

Yet in his remarks last week, President Ford was totally silent on the money and credit policies that will make economic recovery possible. I propose that the President convene an emergency conference on monetary policy, attended by the Federal Reserve Board and representatives of business, labor, banking, farming, and the investment community.

This conference should be convened for the express purpose of arriving at monetary policies that are fully consistent with the goal of economic recovery. Unless this is done, the desired economic effect of the tax cut and other economic recovery measures will be largely wasted.

I further propose that the President use the Credit Control Act of 1969 to channel credit into sectors of the economy now starved for funds, primarily housing, state and local government, small businesses, and agriculture.

Now let me say a word about housing. There is no way out of a national recession while housing is in a depression. Today hundreds of thousands of skilled construction workers are out of their jobs and thousands of contractors are without work.

Yet America needs homes and many of our cities need massive reconstruction.

As early as 1949, Congress established a national goal of a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family. To achieve these goals and rescue the housing industry, strong action is necessary.

First, Mr. President, release the funds that the Congress has provided for housing.

Second, Congress should consider establishing a National Housing Bank with sufficient funds to provide interest subsidies and other financing for low- and middle-income taxpayers.

Third, the President should use the authority he now has under public law to allocate credit for housing.

Economic recovery also depends on a sound national energy policy that can be supported by every American. This will re-

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY "~~MEET THE PRESS~~" February 17, 1975

HUMPHREY: "Unless we take some very concrete and effective action, and very quickly, ~~within the next 60 to 90 days~~, I think we would be approaching what you would call the dimensions of a depression."

* * *

SPIVAK: "When will Congress do something (about tax cuts)?"

HUMPHREY: "~~Within the next 30 days~~"

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO:

PHILIP W. BUCHEN
JOHN O. MARSH, JR.
DONALD H. RUMSFELD
JAMES LYNN
L. WILLIAM SEIDMAN
JAMES CANNON
HENRY A. KISSINGER
RONALD H. NESSEN ✓
ANN WHITMAN

FROM:

ROBERT T. HARTMANN

Chairman Mary Louise Smith of the Republican National Committee has asked me to invite you, as senior members of the White House Staff, to several social events in connection with the meetings this week of the Republican National Committee and the Republican Leadership Conference.

Please see the attached letter from Mrs. Smith for explanation of these events. Tickets at the door may be reserved by calling Kathy Plowman at 484-6700.

I hope that senior members of the White House Staff will try to attend at least one of these social events.

Republican
National
Committee.

Mary Louise Smith
Chairman

March 4, 1975

Honorable Robert T. Hartmann
Counsellor to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Bob:

Confirming our telephone conversation of last night, this is to invite you and members of your staff to any and/or all of the events to be held in connection with the National Committee meeting on Wednesday and Thursday, March 4-6 and the Leadership Conference, March 6-8. In my behalf will you please extend this invitation to all senior members of the White House Staff as well.

On Tuesday evening, March 4, there is a reception for National Committee members and spouses. You will note the luncheon on Wednesday is honoring newly elected Republican members of Congress and the luncheon on Thursday is a nod to International Women's Year with Congresswoman Virginia Smith and Pat Lindh as our speakers. All sessions of the National Committee meetings are open.

Thursday evening, March 6, the opening event of the Conference is a reception to which Congressmen and Cabinet Officers have been invited. At the Friday noon luncheon, Vice President Rockefeller will be the guest speaker and, of course, the President is the speaker and he and Mrs. Ford are the guests of honor at the banquet on Friday evening.

For the luncheons and the banquet it would be appreciated if we could know who will be in attendance so that tickets may be held for them. Please call Kathy Plowman at 484-6700.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 7, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: PHILIP W. BUCHEN
JOHN O. MARSH, JR.
DONALD H. RUMSFELD
JAMES LYNN
L. WILLIAM SEIDMAN
RONALD H. NESSEN ✓
JAMES CANNON
ANN WHITMAN

FROM: ROBERT T. HARTMANN



Effective March 10, 1975, a new system of processing invitations extended to the President and Vice President from entities of the Republican Party throughout the nation will be instituted. The new procedure will involve the Republican National Committee as a part of the input process in recommending whether invitations should be accepted or not.

Occasionally many of us receive communications from friends and acquaintances urging acceptance of an invitation to the President or Vice President. These should be handled as they always have been by referral to Warren Rustand's Scheduling Office, but in your acknowledgement of Republican Party invitations, you may wish to mention the fact that the Republican National Committee now has a role in the decision process for such invitations. In short, let the RNC take the blame if the answer is "No".

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 27, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
DON RUMSFELD
BOB HARTMANN ✓
JACK MARSH
MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*

My notes from a meeting of February 28, 1975, with Democratic Congressional leaders on the President's energy program, show the following quotations which may be of some help in the days ahead:

Senator Pastore:

"If we can't come up with something in 60 days, we can't come up with something (at all)."

"I don't see how we can ask the President to do more than postpone the second dollar for 60 days. If we don't come up with a program by then, you can put it on."

Speaker Albert:

"It's not fair to ask you to make a decision until you've studied our plan. Just hold off the second dollar until you have studied it."

Congressman McFall:

"If the goal of the import tariff was to get the mule's attention, you've got the mule's attention."



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 24, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB HARTMANN *file*
JACK CALKINS
JACK MARSH
JIM CONNOR

FROM:

RON NESSEN *R. A. N.*

On May 6 I passed on to you a conversation I had with Congressman William Cohen of Maine concerning his interest in having the President come to a fund-raising dinner in Maine to off-set what he believes is the growing Reagan strength there.

Attached find a new letter from Cohen along with a David Broder column he attached.

Attachment

WILLIAM S. COHEN

2D DISTRICT, MAINE

412 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6306

COMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY
SMALL BUSINESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:

FEDERAL BUILDING
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 942-8271 Ext. 417

169 LISBON STREET
LEWISTON, MAINE 04240
(207) 784-6969

523 MAIN STREET
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769
(207) 764-3266

May 22, 1975

Mr. Ron Nessen
Press Secretary to the President
White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

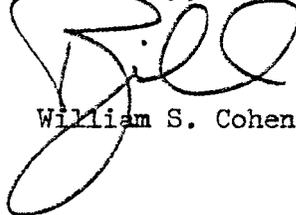
Dear Ron:

In line with the discussion we had the other day about the need for the President to visit Maine, I am enclosing a copy of David Broder's recent column in which our Republican Chairman, John R. Linnell, accurately portrays the political situation in my State.

I hope you will find the article valuable in making the case for a Maine trip by the President.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,



William S. Cohen, M.C.

WSCdp
Enclosure

The Inside Struggle

MAY 1 5 1975 PPH

Maine Chairman Expressed GOP Fears

By David S. Broder

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: ROBERT HARTMANN

FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*

SUBJECT: Press Conference Briefing Book

In view of the continuing frequency of Presidential press conferences, interviews and other sessions with newsmen, we have devised a system which we believe will facilitate keeping the President's briefing book up to date -- especially important since he isn't always able to have extensive review sessions with his staff before each one.

It is our intention to maintain a rather extensive master briefing book, which will contain current Q&A's on a wide variety of subjects. From that master book, and from other issues we think may arise in a particular session, we will pull together materials for a smaller, more manageable briefing book for the President. We look to you especially for input on political matters, and, of course, on other issues you think may come up.

In order to accomplish this system, we are asking that you submit Q&A each week by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday to Jerry Warren in Room 164, OEOB. We would ask that you have a member of your staff maintain a file of the Q&A's you submit so that you can review it weekly for any changes or additions. In addition to the weekly update, we will, of course, attempt to inform you of each expected need for the book so you can word answers appropriately (i.e. before or after announcements or events).

This week's input will be aimed at the President's press conference on Monday, March 17, in South Bend, Indiana.

MEMORANDUM TO: Robert Hartmann
FROM: Ron Nessen
SUBJECT: Press Conference Briefing Book
DATE: March 10, 1975

Page Two

Thank you for your cooperation. If we continue to work with you and your staff, I think we can contribute significantly to the President's preparation for press conferences and other sessions with the press.

RNH:kt

cc: Jack Calkins
Paul Theis



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 19, 1975

Ron said to ignore this
and just file it...hopefully
Hartmann will not bring it
up again....

ignore file

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

FROM: BOB MEAD *BM*

SUBJECT: Television and the Deaf Community

Each year a campaign from the deaf community is geared up and the White House receives many letters from various organizations associated with the deaf community requesting that a sign-language interpreter appear with the President during all televised messages. The letter writing campaign is also aimed at the three major networks, and the nets have almost reached the point of not responding because of the large volume they receive.

My office responds to all letters of this type, and our response is similar to the one attached.

Although the ideas do have some merit and the campaign has been successful in some cities on local t. v. (ABC News in Washington, D. C. on Channel 26 at 11:00 p. m.), it is up to the networks to put forth such a programming idea, technically, and we should not involve ourselves except to note the merits and refer to the networks.

DISTRIBUTION:

- Robert Hartmann
- Jack Calkins
- Ron Nessen
- Liz O'Neill
- Press Office

Ron Nessen

This is kind of a negative position for the WH, I feel, when you consider that 9,300,000 Americans of voting age have hearing defects + politically I would like to see us be more for it + RTH

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1975

Dear Mr. Pokorny:

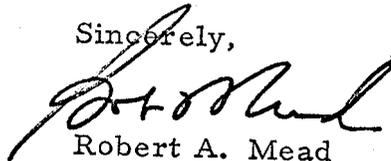
Your recent letters to Robert Hartmann and John Marsh suggesting that a sign-language interpreter for the deaf community appear with the President during the delivery of televised addresses have been passed to my office for study.

This matter is of particular interest and concern to the White House. It is an undeniable fact that the President and his staff feel it is of great importance that Presidential speeches reach every segment of the American public and television is, of course, one of the best channels for mass communication. Unfortunately, the White House has no control over the television industry; i. e., the scheduling of network programming; involvement with network electronic techniques in covering Presidential speeches. A decision on this matter would have to be made by the networks.

I suggest you contact executives from the three major networks with your proposal. Another suggestion would be to contact an official at Public Television. I do know that Public Television has adopted a split-screen technique using a sign-language interpreter in some cities on local television.

Thank you for writing, and please keep me informed of your progress. With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Robert A. Mead
Television Advisor
to the President

Mr. Daniel H. Pokorny, B. D., M. S. W.
Pastor
Gallaudet Lutheran Ministry
Box 1024 Kendall Green
Washington, D. C. 20002

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 20, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO:

RON NESSEN

FROM:

ROBERT T. HARTMANN

SUBJECT:

Requests for Editorial Office
Material

The attached form is designed to expedite requests by staff members for material to be used by the President in either spoken or written form.

If the President is scheduled for remarks or needs talking points or other material for an event in which you are involved, please complete this form and get it into the hands of Paul Theis in Room 115 OEOB as far in advance of the date of Presidential usage as possible.

Please feel free to Xerox additional copies of this form so you will have a supply on hand to use as the need arises. Or call extension 6573 and we'll send you over a supply to use.

Thanks.

Attachment

REQUEST FOR EDITORIAL OFFICE ACTION

TO: PAUL A. THEIS

FROM: _____

ACTION REQUESTED:

- Speech Brief remarks Talking points
- Article Script Toast
- Message Other _____

Event or publication for which Presidential material is requested _____

Date, time and place of use _____

Time/word length of requested material _____

Suggested theme _____

Basic research/speech material furnished with this request (please attach)

Persons to contact for additional information _____

Additional comments _____

*Sale
Raiman
OK
Dinner to use
tickets*

*OK
RA*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
April 11, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN
FROM: ROBERT T. HARTMANN *RA*
SUBJECT: Senate-House Dinner
 April 15, 1975

Next Tuesday evening, April 15, is the date of the Annual Senate-House Fund Raising Dinner at \$1000 per plate sponsored by the Republican National Committee, Republican Congressional Committee, and the Republican Senatorial Committee. All three of these committees share equally in the net proceeds raised by the event.

The President has strongly endorsed this event. He will attend and speak, as will the Vice President.

The Dinner Committee has made available a small number of gratis tickets for use by key White House personnel, and I am happy to offer you two tickets.

Please notify Gail Raiman of my staff if you wish to utilize this offer and give to her the names of those people who will be attending. Please respond by noon Monday so that arrangements can be made to deliver the tickets to you.

Details: The Senate-House Dinner will be held at the International Ballroom of the Washington Hilton at 8:00 p.m.. The Reception will begin at 7:00 p.m.. The dress is business suit or Black Tie.

April 12, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN

FROM: RON NESSEN

Chuck Baily, the editor of the Minneapolis Tribune, was in to see me a week or so ago. I took him in to say hello to the President.

He promised to send the President the latest findings of the respected Minnesota poll of public opinion. I have passed on a copy to the President, and I thought you would be interested in seeing it too.

RN/cg



MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE

MINNESOTA POLL Release

Wednesday, March 19, 1975

79 pct. oppose more U.S. aid in Asian war

Copyright 1975 Minneapolis Tribune

	Aid will put South Vietnam over the hump	Without aid, South Vietnam & Cambodia will fall
Believe it	8%	61%
Do not believe it	85	25
Not sure	7	14
	<hr/> 100%	<hr/> 100%

Those opposed to military aid then were asked:

"Assuming that these countries would fall to the Communists if the United States fails to send additional aid now, would you still oppose sending this money?"

April 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN

FROM: RON NESSEN

Marquis Childs **came** in to visit me today to request an opportunity to interview the President on a highly specialized topic -- namely, the President's view of the 1976 political scene, and especially the President's views on Ronald **Reagan** and the conservative wing of the Republican **party**.

Childs has some very strong ideas of his own in this area. He believes Ronald Reagan will run in the primaries for the Republican nomination, **and** he believes this and the whole **concept** of conservative Republicans attempting to run their own candidate against the President is a sure way to destroy the Republican party in 1976, and to assure a **Democratic** victory. Childs thinks the Democrats are in great disarray with no outstanding candidate, and the President could be elected next year **if** the Republican **party** does not **tear** itself apart on ideological grounds.

I am in favor of granting Childs this interview, which he says he would spread out **over 3** or 4 columns. I am leaving the decision to you, however, because I think its more of a political call on whether **you** think the President should be talking publicly **about** these kinds of political issues **at** this point.

After you and the President have decided whether you think it is **wise** to go forward with this interview now, if you let me know I will get **back** in touch with Childs to give him a yes or no.

RN/cg



April 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN
FROM: RON NESSEN

Marquis Childs came in to visit me today to request an opportunity to interview the President on a highly specialized topic -- namely, the President's view of the 1976 political scene, and especially the President's views on Ronald Reagan and the conservative wing of the Republican party.

Childs has some very strong ideas of his own in this area. He believes Ronald Reagan will run in the primaries for the Republican nomination, and he believes this and the whole concept of conservative Republicans attempting to run their own candidate against the President is a sure way to destroy the Republican party in 1976, and to assure a Democratic victory. Childs thinks the Democrats are in great disarray with no outstanding candidate, and the President could be elected next year if the Republican party does not tear itself apart on ideological grounds.

I am in favor of granting Childs this interview, which he says he would spread out over 3 or 4 columns. I am leaving the decision to you, however, because I think its more of a political call on whether you think the President should be talking publicly about these kinds of political issues at this point.

After you and the President have decided whether you think it is wise to go forward with this interview now, if you let me know I will get back in touch with Childs to give him a yes or no.

RN/cg



April 28, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB HARTMANN

FROM:

BOB NESSEN

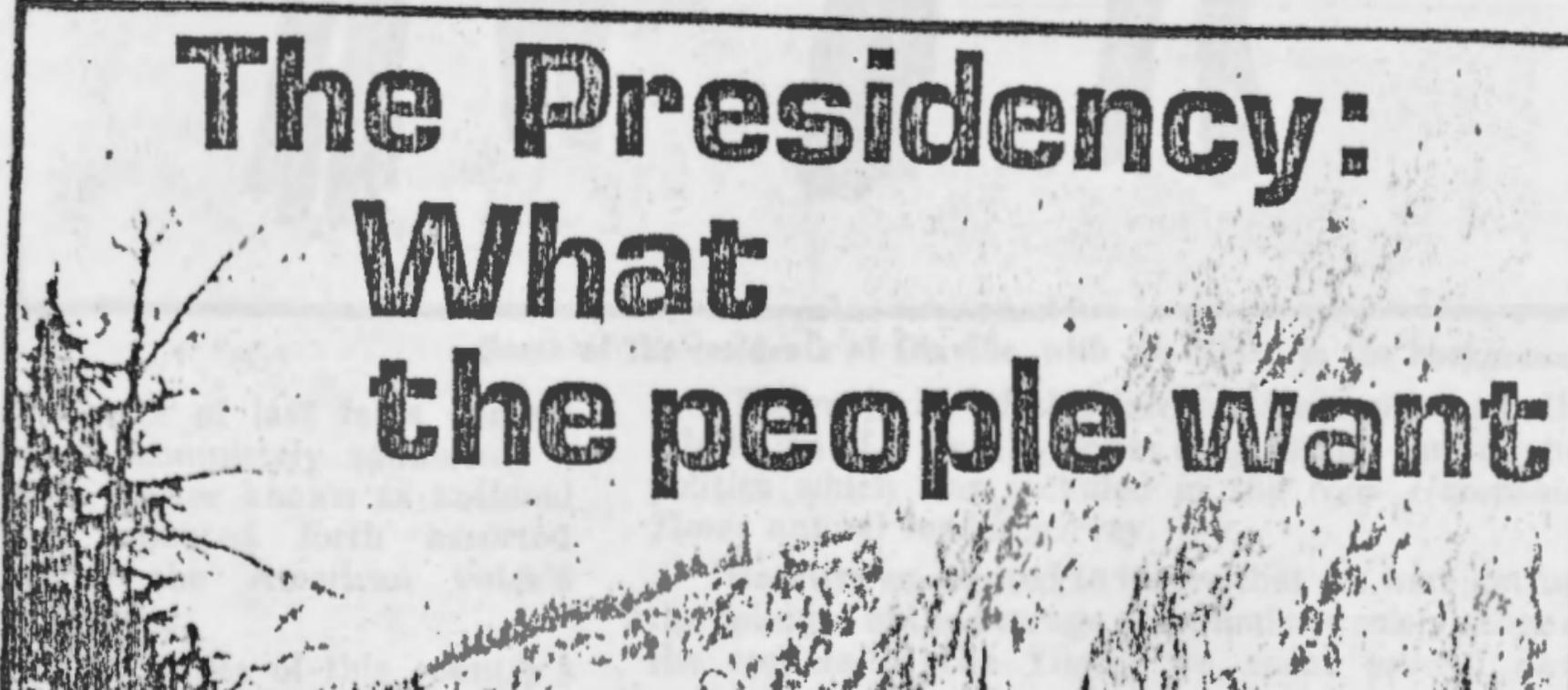
Here is the Presidential poll taken by the New Hampshire Times which you requested.

As you can see, it can hardly be called a scientific poll.

Attachment

RH/PP





The Presidency: What the people want

interviewing over 300 people on the streets of various New Hampshire cities, towns and villages. As it happened, the outside interviews produced the same answers as our reader survey.

Our primary intention in questioning the voters was not to determine who they wanted for a President, but rather, what type of qualities they felt this person should possess and what their feelings were on the political process in general.

These 1300 interviews serve as a strong indication that the voters in New Hampshire are interested, are concerned and do have strong opinions on what type of government they want. In fact, most people interviewed were willing to discuss the topics at length at great length.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 28, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB HARTMANN
JACK MARSH
DON RUMSFELD

FROM:

RON NESSEN

Lou Cannon told me after my briefing today that someone tried to peddle to the Washington Post last week the story that the President has decided not to run for election. The Post did not go for the story. Cannon would not say who tried to peddle the story.

On a possibly related matter, Sarah McClendon of the El Paso Times, tells me that somebody tried to sell her the story that the President is canceling all of his major engagements in the early Fall because Mrs. Ford is fatally ill and he wants to spend as much time with her as he possibly can.

Somebody is playing the game rough in this town.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 1, 1975

MEMO FOR: RON NESSEN
FROM: ELISKA HASEK *Elise*
SUBJECT: Business Professional Advertising
 Association Award to John Chancellor

If you agree, I can turn this request off by phone by explaining that the President generally does not send messages recognizing awards given by local chapters of national organizations.

FYI: As you know there have been occasional exceptions to this rule. But should John Chancellor be one of them?

(1) Regret by phone ~~_____~~

(2) Prepare Presidential message _____

Attachments

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

File

May 2, 1975

Mr. Hartmann:

Ron Nessen wanted you to see
this if you hadn't already.

Gail

Evans + Novak
Political Report

*I saw it, but
have you seen
this?*

[Signature]

MMR

RTU-GA
Page 4

The Media Report

CO-PUBLISHERS: KEVIN P. PHILLIPS / ALBERT E. SINDLINGER ■ EDITOR: BRIAN P. LAMB

Volume II, No. 4
April 25, 1975

INSIDE THE MEDIA

Ford: The White House was stunned by Newsweek's report - flatly denied - of Mr. Ford's secret word to a few top aides that he would make a charade of running by entering some early primaries, but actually had made up his mind not to run. Here is our assessment:

1) He will almost certainly run. The negative argument over Mrs. Ford's health is seen inside the White House this way: even if she has a recurrence of cancer or some other problem, she is better off with better care in Washington than in Grand Rapids. But Mrs. Ford's health is not worsening, by all objective evidence. She is now expanding her regular travel and activities.

2) Warned in advance of the Newsweek story, the White House angrily denied it, then set up a weekend series of political meetings under the President's closest confidant, Bob Hartmann, to start planning the campaign

3) Another published story that Mel Laird has actually accepted the campaign manager post we find premature. Our conclusions: Laird is desperately wanted; he has been asked; and he has told Ford he won't accept. The most that Laird will do is part-time, leaving day-to-day management of the campaign to others.

4) The Reagan boomlet has White House aides worried, which is one reason for their fury at the Newsweek story. But Press Sec. Ron Nessen went too far in primly pinning on Reagan's men the blame for leaking the Ford-won't-run report.

Despite the flurry of White House activity, we feel Ford's start as a candidate is grossly overdue, with time running short. That same feeling is widely shared among Ford-men in Congress. We polled a top-heavy grassroots GOP farm town in Illinois last week and found only 10% named Mr. Ford as the man they would like to see nominated for President. Head-to-head with Reagan, Ford had a marginal lead. He received high marks for candor and decency; low marks on handling of economy and foreign policy. He is still not perceived as a figure of Presi-



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN'S OFFICE

FROM: Press Office

We wanted to make sure you have copies of the attached memos for your information and files. Various press people have mentioned that they were not allowed to wait in the West Lobby for appointments with Mr. Hartmann.

MAY 2 1975

sent

March 24, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STAFF

FROM:

RON NESSEN *RHN*

I would like to make a small amendment to my recent memorandum concerning reporters waiting for appointments with White House staff members.

It is appropriate for reporters to be allowed to wait in the West Lobby for scheduled meetings with White House staff members, but reporters should not be allowed to sit in the West Basement where they may overhear sensitive conversations among staff members.

3/5
sent

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE WHITE HOUSE STAFF
FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*
SUBJECT: Appointments with Newsmen

It has come to my attention that some newsmen who have appointments to interview members of the White House staff have been cleared to enter and wait in the West Basement and West Lobby.

Since these locations are places where government officials and visitors to the White House often discuss official and private business, I suggest that all newsmen who have appointments with White House staff members be cleared to enter and wait in the Press Room. When it is time for the appointment, these press members would then be notified and escorted from the Press Room to the appropriate office.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 6, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB HARTMANN ✓
JACK CALKINS
JACK MARSH
JIM CONNOR

FROM:

RON NESSEN *RHN*

Congressman William Cohen of Maine (who apparently considers me his White House contact since I met him at a party one night), phoned today to request help with a Maine Republican fund-raising dinner on June 22.

The Maine GOP Chairman, Jack Linell, is staging the dinner to pay off a \$30,000 debt from the last election and to raise money for the next election. Congressman Cohen and Linell would like the President to come as the star attraction because they believe he would attract more people and more money could be raised. If the President could not make it, Linell plans to invite Reagan and this is what worries Cohen.

Cohen says he is "alarmed" by the growing Reagan support in Maine and he feels that a Reagan appearance at this dinner would further advance Reagan's popularity in Maine. So Cohen hopes the President will make every effort to attend this dinner.

Among others who have recently volunteered concern to me about the growing Reagan organization and support are: Congressman Pete McCloskey, Bob Finch and Herb Klein.



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 7, 1975

CONFIDENTIAL

Determined to be an
Administrative Marking

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN

FROM:

RON NESSEN *RHN*

By SD NARA, Date 11/25/13

Marianne Means, the columnist, called me today to say that some of her Republican sources have expressed concern about a man they have heard is involved in the President's preliminary campaign planning.

According to Marianne, the man is Edward Failor. She says her Republican sources tell her this man is a protege of Jeb Magruder who once shared an office with G. Gordon Liddy and was involved at least on the fringes of the "dirty tricks" program.

Ron - As was agreed in this morning's meeting with the President, his "preliminary campaign planning" is in the hands of Alan Bard's group and such questions should be referred to him. I understand you discussed this with Jack Calhoun & Owen and caution you that Miss Means rarely has anything good to say about the President. *RHN*

May 7, 1975

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN

FROM: RON NESSEN

Marianne Means, the columnist, called me today to say that some of her Republican sources have expressed concern about a man they have heard is involved in the President's preliminary campaign planning.

According to Marianne, the man is Edward Faller. She says her Republican sources tell her this man is a protege of Jeb Magruder who once shared an office with G. Gordon Liddy and was involved at least on the fringes of the "dirty tricks" program.

RN/cg



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
May 7, 1975

Determined to be an
Administrative Marking

CONFIDENTIAL

By SD NARA, Date 11/25/2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN

FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*

Marianne Means, the columnist, called me today to say that some of her Republican sources have expressed concern about a man they have heard is involved in the President's preliminary campaign planning.

According to Marianne, the man is Edward Failor. She says her Republican sources tell her this man is a protege of Jeb Magruder who once shared an office with G. Gordon Liddy and was involved at least on the fringes of the "dirty tricks" program.

Ron - As was agreed in this morning's meeting with the President, his "preliminary campaign planning" is in the hands of Dean Burch's group and such questions should be referred to him. I understand you discussed this with Jack Calhoun & Owen and caution you that Miss Means rarely has anything good to say about the President. DJH

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

From: Robert T. Hartmann

To: Pon Kessen

Date: 5/14

Time

a. m.

p. m.

I have discussed this with the President and, although it is a regional rather than a national organization, the area is one of considerable political priority.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 5, 1975

Dear Mr. Armistead:

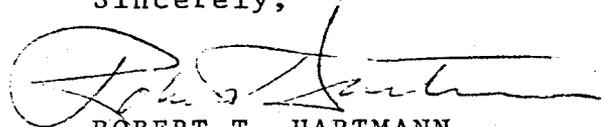
Thank you very much for your letter of May 1. I was pleased to meet you at the White House Reception for the American Newspaper Publishers Association.

The President has seen your letter mentioning the invitation extended to him by Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr. for him to address the 1975 Annual Convention of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association on either November 17 or 19, in Boca Raton, Florida.

I have recommended this invitation highly to Press Secretary Ron Nessen and have forwarded a copy of your letter to Mr. Nessen and to Mr. Warren Rustand. Mr. Rustand is the Director of Scheduling for the President and you should be hearing from him in the near future.

Kind personal regards.

Sincerely,



ROBERT T. HARTMANN
Counsellor to the President

Mr. M. W. Armistead, III
President
Southern Newspaper Publishers Association
P. O. Box 28875
Atlanta, Georgia 30328

SNPA

Southern Newspaper Publishers Association
P.O. Box 28875 / Atlanta, Georgia 30328 / (404) 394-5550

PERSONAL

May 1, 1975

Mr. Robert T. Hartmann
Counselor to the President
Editorial Office
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Hartmann:

Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr., acting in his capacity as the Virginia Director of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association, has already extended an invitation on behalf of the Board of Directors to President Ford to address the 1975 annual convention of this association to be held November 16-19 at the Boca Raton Hotel and Club, Boca Raton, Florida. The invitation asked the President to speak on either Monday morning, November 17, or Wednesday morning, November 19, whichever date he finds more suitable. For purposes of arranging the convention program it would be most helpful if we could receive a decision on which of those dates the President would be more likely to be with us.

The Southern Newspaper Publishers Association has in excess of 400 member daily newspapers in fourteen Southeastern and Southwestern states. We expect attendance at Boca Raton to be at least 700 newspaper executives and their wives. We believe the SNPA convention would provide a significant forum for a presidential message, and if you agree, I would appreciate it if you would bring this invitation personally to the attention of the President.

I had the pleasure of meeting you at the White House some weeks ago as an officer of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, which met with their counterparts of the American Society of Newspaper Editors to hear the President express his views on pending freedom of information legislation.

I hope that I will have an opportunity to see you again at an early date.

Sincerely yours,

M. W. Armistead, III

M. W. Armistead, III
President

MWA:cb

SNPA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
1974-75

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Norfolk, VA 23501

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Knight Newspapers, Inc. Elect
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Miami, FL 33101

Mr. Tams Bixby III - Chairman
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Atlanta, GA 30302

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Ardmore, OK 73401

Mr. Walter Hussman, Jr.
The Arkansas Democrat
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Little Rock, AR 72203

Mr. Fred D. Moffitt
Spartanburg Herald & Journal
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Spartanburg, SC 29301

Mr. James H. Jesse
Pensacola News & Journal
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Pensacola, FL 32501

Mr. Wayne Sargent
Nashville Banner
1100 Broadway
Nashville, TN 37202

Mr. Otis A. Brumby, Jr.
Marietta Daily Journal
P. O. Box 449
Marietta, GA 30060

Mr. Rhea Howard
Times and Record-News
P. O. Box 120
Wichita Falls, TX 76307

Mr. John B. Gaines
Bowling Green Park City Daily News
P. O. Box 929
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Mr. Harry F. Byrd, Jr.
Evening Star
P. O. Box 27
Winchester, VA 22601

Mr. Douglas Manship, Sr.
Morning Advocate & State-Times
P. O. Box 588
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Mr. G. Ogden Nutting
Intelligencer & News-Register
1500 Main Street
Wheeling, WV 26003

Mr. Roland Weeks, Jr.
Daily Herald-Sun
P. O. Box 4567
Biloxi, MS 39531

Mr. W. Howard Bronson, Jr.
Shreveport Journal & Times
P. O. Box 1110
Shreveport, LA 71130

Mr. Steed Rollins
Morning Herald-Sun
P. O. Box 2092
Durham, NC 27702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 22, 1975

TO: RONALD H. NESSEN
FROM: ROBERT T. HARTMANN
SUBJECT: RNC Open House

RTH

Republican National Committee Chairman Mary Louise Smith has extended an invitation to the White House Senior Staff and their assistants to an RNC Open House on Tuesday, June 10 at 6:00 p.m. The RNC is located at 310 First Street, SE.

They would enjoy having members of the White House Staff tour the building, meet the Division Directors and, in general, discuss the internal operations of the Committee.

To facilitate their planning, they would like to know approximately how many of the Staff to expect. Please notify the office of Gwen Anderson at ext. 7007 as to how many members of your staff plan on attending.

Yes
 No