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*Chung*

February 20, 1976

Dick:

Ronald Reagan has told reporters that he cannot understand why the President is calling him an extremist since he claims the President has offered him 2 Cabinet posts in the last 6-8 months: Commerce and Transportation.

The networks are asking the White House for reaction before their shows. Should I

Flatly deny it \_\_\_\_\_

Wait to talk to you \_\_\_\_\_

Ron Nessen



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

OK

[ca. 2/23/76]

NOTE FOR:

Dick Cheney

FROM :

RON NESSEN

You misunderstood.  
Cliff thinks this guy  
might be good for  
the White House or  
PFC, not necessarily  
be in the Press Office.  
RHN.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*

Cliff White suggested to me someone he thinks may be helpful: Lyle Nelson, chairman of the Department of Communications of Stanford, former vice president of the University of Michigan, and friend of the President.

*Rm*

*let's talk about  
it before you do  
anything.*

*Yich*



*RHC*

February 24, 1976

Dear Mr. Hawthorne:

Thank you for taking the time to write following President Ford's February 17 televised press conference.

I have read your comments very carefully and I will be pleased to pass along to the President and his Press Secretary your views on this important issue.

With appreciation and best regards,

Sincerely,

Richard B. Cheney  
Assistant to the President

Mr. Robert E. Hawthorne  
48 Marland Road  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906

RBC:MD:ms

bcc w/cc of incmg to Ron Nessen



ROBERT EARLE HAWTHORNE  
48 MARLAND ROAD  
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80906

February 19, 1976

The Chief of Staff  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Sir:

During the press conference of last Tuesday, February 17 the President was asked questions in an insolent and argumentative manner which demonstrated an attitude of disrespect on the part of his questioners.

~~Where is it written that the President must face a group of hostile and discourteous interrogators on nationwide TV? Why are the questioners permitted to argue, insinuate and behave in an almost contemptuous manner?~~

~~It lowers the dignity of the office of President and gives TV viewers, particularly the young ones, the example that the occupant of the highest office in the land can be publicly treated like a defendant on the witness stand by young, militant challengers who happen to have chosen newspaper reporting as their job. Is it not natural to expect that children, seeing the spectacle of the President being grilled, will think it is normal for them to deal with their parents and teachers in the same disrespectful and contemptuous manner?~~

The practice of the President submitting to hostile questioning by an arrogant and irresponsible press is not an old tradition. Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower and Johnson would never tolerate it. Perhaps President Nixon was the first to have to put up with it. It is time to stop it, and to insist that these reporters conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to citizens who are privileged to ask questions of the President of the United States, not as impudent school children trying to catch the teacher in a contradiction or a point of error.

Until their manners improve the President should meet with them in private, without camera and microphone.

Respectfully yours,



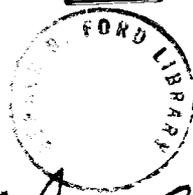
Robert E. Hawthorne



THE WHITE HOUSE

[ca. 2/25/76]  
file

Ron,



RH ✓

You handled the press corps  
very well on the N.H. primary.  
We got the right bounce  
on most of the stories -  
it was a classy performance!

Dick

P.S. let me know when ~~then~~ you  
want to collect on our "smoking"  
bet and how I sign up for the program.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Jul 25

NOTE FOR:

Dick Cheney

FROM :

RON NESSEN

You misunderstood.  
Cliff thinks this guy  
might be good for  
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be the Press Office.  
RHN.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

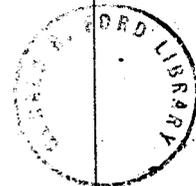
FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*

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*RHN*

*let's talk about  
it before you do  
anything.*

*Dick*



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3/27

NOTE FOR:

Pit Cheney

FROM : RON NESSEN

Pete McCloskey addressed  
this letter to me,  
for some reason.

Do you have a  
mechanism for  
Presidential "think you's"  
to these guys?

RAN



PAUL N. McCLOSKEY, JR.  
12TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

205 CANNON BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5411

COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
AND  
COMMITTEE ON  
MERCHANT MARINE  
AND FISHERIES

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
305 GRANT AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA 94306  
(415) 326-7383

February 26, 1976

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

Dear Ron:

The Congressmen who helped the President in New Hampshire were as follows:

1. Bill Cohen did a hell of a job, both in the press and with the students at the University of New Hampshire. I think Bill was particularly helpful in view of his being one of the early Republican leaders who voted for Nixon's impeachment, and thus had unimpeachable credibility in his advocacy for the President.
2. Bud Hillis flew three of us, Ron Sarasin, Joel Pritchard and myself, up to Concord on the Friday before the election. The impact of all four of us, from states where the Republican Congressional representation is dwindling, provoked a pro-Ford editorial by Tom Gerber in the Concord Monitor on Monday.
3. Joel Pritchard spent three days in New Hampshire telephoning undecided voters even though he had the flu.
4. Jim Jeffords personally telephoned 50 undecided Republican voters along the Vermont-New Hampshire border.
5. Stew McKinney did the same from Connecticut.
6. Bob McEwen, Mark Andrews, John Anderson and Barber Conable wanted to help on the last weekend but I just couldn't get to them in time with the telephone lists.
7. Finally, Jim Cleveland did a superb job treading the line between Loeb and what's left of the moderate Republican wing in New Hampshire.



-2-

I might add the thought that it was the President's personal attention to the campaign trail that really turned the tide. I hope he will continue to campaign actively, at least in Florida and Illinois during the next several weeks. Jim Jeffords feels it would also be helpful if he made perhaps a dozen telephone calls to key Republican leaders in Vermont between now and the April caucus date there.

Best regards,



Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.

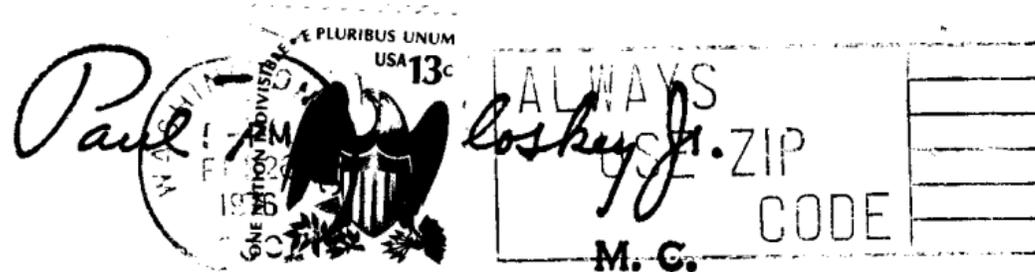
PNMcC:MOdd

cc: Honorable Rogers Morton



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

~~OFFICIAL BUSINESS~~



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

February 27, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR DICK CHENEY

FROM:       RON NESSEN

Godfrey Sperling has called my office with the offer to pay for the breakfast the President gave for him and his breakfast group on February 10, which commemorated its 10th anniversary.

The bill amounted to \$298.67 and was paid from the White House official entertainment fund. I understand it is a common thing for outside groups or agencies to reimburse the fund. Sperling's office says they are both "willing and able" to do so.

\_\_\_\_\_ Accept Sperling's offer to reimburse  
          the fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Tell Sperling the President was happy to  
          host the breakfast as his own tribute to  
          Sperling, and does not want to be reimbursed

RN/CG/cg



March 2, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR DICK CHENEY

FROM:                      RON NESSEN

Bo Callaway suggested last night that the President  
phone Sil Conte.

RN/jb



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

NOTE FOR:

*Dick Cheney*

FROM :

RON NESSEN

[ca. 3/3/76]

F Y I

*RAN*



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# EVANS-NOVAK POLITICAL REPORT

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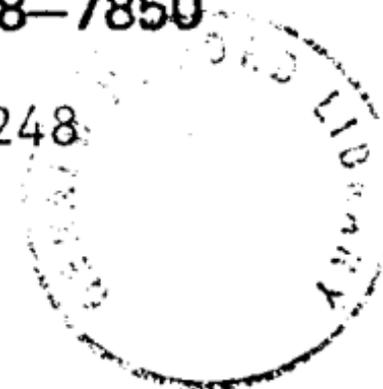
WHAT'S HAPPENING . . . WHO'S AHEAD . . . IN POLITICS TODAY

1750 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. • Room 1312 • Washington, D.C. 20006 • 202-298-7850

March 3, 1976 - No. 248

To: Our Subscribers

From: Evans-Novak



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY  
ROGERS C. B. MORTON  
BO CALLAWAY  
JERRY JONES  
BOB MEAD

FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*

Phil Buchen has been notified that Ronald Reagan has asked for, and been granted, time on all three TV stations in Orlando, Florida tomorrow.

In requesting this Florida TV time, Reagan's representatives told the stations it was to be used for a very strong attack on President Ford. No subject was specified.



March 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

FROM: RON NESSEN

A friend of mine says the CBS-New York Times poll has interviewed 225 people leaving key precincts all over Florida (this is 1/2 of the total polling to be done) with the following results:

Ford - 61 percent

Reagan - 39 percent

I thought you and the President might want to know this.



March 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR DICK CHENEY

FROM: RON NESSEN

During his interview with the Chicago Sun Times the other day, the President was asked about a recent report showing that a growing number of Americans are illiterate.

The President asked that he be reminded when he got back to Washington to find out from HEW Secretary Mathews what is being done about this problem.

RH/cg



March 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DICK CHENEY

FROM:

BON NESSEN

You asked me the other day to pull together the recent Presidential statements concerning Reagan being to the right of him and therefore not electable.

Attached is all the recent statements on this subject I can find.

Attachments:

Presidential statements



RN/jb

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3/16

NOTE FOR: Dick Cheney  
FROM : RON MESSEN

I guess the  
action on this  
is yours.

R.M.N.





ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

March 11, 1976

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR:           RON NESSEN  
                                  PRESS SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: ROTC Unit at Bradley University

Attached is the draft letter to the President of Bradley University that you requested from Bill Greener.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tod R. Hullin", is written above the typed name.

Tod R. Hullin  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Public Affairs)

Attachment



DRAFT - March 11, 1976

Doctor Martin G. Abegg  
President  
Bradley University  
Peoria, Illinois 61625

Dear Dr. Abegg:

Thank you very much for your warm hospitality during my visit to Bradley last week. I enjoyed meeting with you, the faculty and student body.

During the question and answer period following my remarks, I was asked by one of the students why the Bradley Air Force ROTC unit was being eliminated. I promised her that I would look into the situation and make you aware of the facts.

It is unfortunate that this action had to be taken at Bradley. However, the Department of Defense is striving to make the most efficient and effective use of each defense dollar to insure that the United States retains the strongest and most viable national defense possible. Regrettably, reductions and eliminations are sometimes necessary to fulfill this objective.

The Bradley unit is one of 11 of the total 164 Air Force ROTC units that will be disestablished. The reasons for this action are the higher than average cost per graduate and the low cadet enrollment.

Department of Defense requirements specify that the annual officer production from each ROTC unit must be adequate to justify the cost of the unit. The criterion for a viable unit is a minimum enrollment of 17 third-year students.



The first year a unit does not enroll 17 students in the junior class, it is put in a probation status, as Bradley was last year. After that one-year period, if the school again does not enroll at least 17 third-year students consideration is given to closure.

Enrollment at Bradley as of October 31, 1975 was 19 freshmen, 15 sophomores, 16 juniors and 13 seniors. Of the 15 sophomores only seven are reported to be qualified and planning to enter the next year's junior class. The total yearly cost to the Air Force of the Bradley ROTC unit is approximately \$250,000. The Fiscal Year 1975 average cost per graduate was \$19,800 compared to the Air Force-wide average of \$12,300.

I am sorry that the hard realities of a cost effective budget system make it necessary for the Air Force ROTC to terminate their long association with the University. The faculty and administration should be commended for the excellent support they have given the unit over the past years.

I hope that you will pass this information to the young lady who asked me the question and to other interested students. Thank you again for making my visit to Bradley such a pleasant one.

Sincerely,

The President



March 16, 1976

**MEMORANDUM FOR DICK CHENEY**

**FROM:           RON NESSEN**

**The President asked on the helicopter the other night coming back from North Carolina what is being done to see that the Kleppe decision on the New River is distributed in North Carolina.**

**The possibility of a Kleppe trip to North Carolina to discuss the issue was mentioned. Also the idea of Kleppe talking to a group of reporters who have covered the New River story.**

**RN/cg**



March 4, 1976

**MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY**

**FROM: RON NESSEN**

**Here is the name and phone number of a person who offers to help in the President Ford campaign:**

**Jack Cox  
Telephone: 213-883-1233**

**He is an aide in Barry Goldwater, Jr.'s California office.**

**BCC: John Carlson**



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

*bet*

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

FROM: RON NESSEN *R.N.*

We should resolve quickly the question of the President attending the movie, "All the President's Men" playing at the Kennedy Center next Sunday, April 4.

Here is a recommendation endorsed by Rog. Morton, Stu Spencer, Dave Gergen and me: The President should not attend the movie, for a variety of reasons which I can outline to you verbally.

The President, through me, should offer the use of the Presidential box to Katherine Graham, publisher of the POST, for herself and whatever guests she wishes to take to the premier. I and my guests would use the trustees box next to the President's box.

If you are going to follow this recommendation, I think I should tell Mrs. Graham no later than Monday, March 29.

SECRET

March 25, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:           DICK CHENEY  
FROM:                       RON NESSEN

**We should resolve quickly the question of the President attending the movie, "All the President's Men" playing at the Kennedy Center next Sunday, April 4.**

**Here is a recommendation endorsed by Reg. Morton, Stu Spencer, Dave Gergen and me: The President should not attend the movie, for a variety of reasons which I can outline to you verbally.**

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**If you are going to follow this recommendation, I think I should tell Mrs. Graham no later than Monday, March 29.**



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3/26/76

NOTE FOR: Dick Cheney  
FROM : RON NESSEN

What's the  
answer?

RNN





MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICA, INC.  
1600 EYE STREET, NORTHWEST  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

JACK VALENTI  
PRESIDENT

Ron  
Would you see  
that the President  
gets this

It is an invitation  
from the producer  
of MIDWAY - for  
the President to  
view this really fine  
movie

Jan



THE MIRISCH CORPORATION  
OF CALIFORNIA

100 UNIVERSAL CITY PLAZA · UNIVERSAL CITY, CALIFORNIA 91608  
TELEPHONE (213) 985-4321 · CABLE: MIRCO

March 22, 1976

The President, Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

It seems like only a short time ago that I had the pleasure of running my film, "Fiddler On The Roof", with you at the Motion Picture Association Theatre in Washington.

Of course, that's been a number of years now but I have only recently completed another film which I think you will also find especially interesting, and which I would very much like to screen for you.

The film is entitled, "Midway", and it is a story told against the background of the great naval battle of World War II. It was filmed with the cooperation of the Navy Department, and it stars Charlton Heston, Henry Fonda, as Admiral Nimitz, Robert Mitchum, as Admiral Halsey, James Coburn, Glenn Ford, Cliff Robertson, and many others. As a World War II carrier naval officer, I think you will derive a great deal of enjoyment from the film, and I hope you can find time in your busy schedule to see it.

If you or your staff will contact me, I will be most pleased to make whatever arrangements are convenient for you to view it.

With my very best regards and all my good wishes to you and Mrs. Ford.

Respectfully yours

WM:jrp



*Walter Mirisch*  
Walter Mirisch

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 29, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY  
FROM: MARGITA WHITE  
SUBJECT: Mailings

Last week I mailed the following:

To 175 members of the National Newspaper Association:  
the President's remarks and Q&A session before the NNA;

To 325 editorial writers: the President's Science and  
Technology Message to Congress and fact sheet.

Attachments

cc: Ron Nessen ✓  
Jim Connor



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 22, 1976

Dear National Newspaper Association Member:

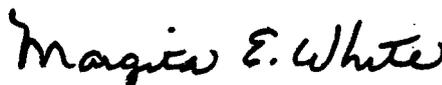
President Ford has asked me to let you know how pleased he was to meet with you and your colleagues on Friday. We hope that you enjoyed your visit to the White House.

Enclosed is a transcript of the President's question and answer session which preceded the reception.

Periodically I mail to editors the texts of major Presidential speeches and messages, as well as accompanying fact sheets which are distributed to the press here. If you are not already on our mailing list and wish to receive information such as this in the future, please let me know.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Margita E. White  
Assistant Press Secretary  
to the President

Enclosures



## OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

## THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
AND  
QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION  
WITH THE  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

## THE STATE FLOOR

3:37 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: President Branen, and members of the National Newspaper Association, and guests:

It is a privilege to welcome you to the East Room, and at the conclusion of the question and answer period I ask all of you to join me in the State Dining Room for some refreshments.

Before getting to the question and answer period, I would like to make two comments.

First, early this year, in its ruling on the campaign reform laws, the Supreme Court said the Congress had 30 days to correct a small defect in the Federal Election Commission or the commission would lose most of its powers.

Three weeks ago, because the Congress had not yet acted, the court granted a 20-day extension. Now some 50 days have passed since the court announced its original decision, and this Congress is still engaged in inexcusable and dangerous delays. Time is running out.

On midnight Monday, the watch-dog set-up to protect our elections will be stripped of most of its authority. The American people have a right to ask, just as I am asking, why won't the Congress act immediately to extend the life of the commission through the November elections?

This is the proposal that I have made repeatedly, and it is a sound and sensible approach. Why are some Members of the Congress still trying to impose massive changes on the campaign laws right in the midst of a campaign? It is clear that such changes would create greater chaos, and uncertainty, that in good conscience I could not accept the bill.

MORE



Finally, why do some Members of the Congress seem to be retreating from our commitment to fair and clean elections? No one can ignore the fact that the American people have had enough of politics, as usual. These are the questions to which the Congress must be held to account as we approach Monday's deadline.

I urge the Congress to act with dispatch in re-establishing the Federal Election Commission so that the democratic process in 1976 will be truly worthy of our great nation.

Then, one other comment. Friday has been especially good to the American people for the last month or six weeks. The Bureau of Labor Statistics made an announcement this morning that affects all of us, but I think it affects the homemakers in the home much more dramatically.

The cost of living figure for the month of February was .1 percent, which is the lowest increase in four years. If you annualize that, that is an increase in the cost of living of 1.2 percent per year. Now, that is great, and we are encouraged by the trend.

I am not forecasting that that will inevitably be the trend, but it certainly is indicative of the fact that we are on the right track and that the handle on the increase in the cost of living is getting firmer.

I might add, we are also encouraged by the announcement this morning that the new orders for manufactured goods went up 2.4 percent, which is another very sizeable increase in things that produce jobs. And with the increase in jobs, a decrease in unemployment and the better picture as far as inflation is concerned, should make all of us, regardless of where we live or what we do, very happy.

With that, I will be glad to answer any questions.

QUESTION: Mr. President, in the field of revenue sharing, what do you predict will be the outcome of that?

THE PRESIDENT: I am slightly encouraged that the House Subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations is moving on the legislation. I recommended a five and three-quarter year extension last summer. The present law expires on December 31, 1976.

MORE



If the Congress doesn't act promptly, many cities, many communities, will suffer very, very seriously, and many States will as well.

In the five plus years that we have had general revenue sharing, the Federal Government has given to the States and 39,000 local units of Government about \$28 billion for them to use as they decide at the local level.

The extension I recommended would take that up to some \$30 plus billion over the next five and three-quarter years. But, the practical problem is that many cities--and I think some States--if this law is not passed by July 1, they can't include in their budgets for the next 12 months revenue that is not established as a matter of law.

So, Congress has dilly-dallied for almost a year, and many mayors, many Governors and many other public officials are deeply concerned that there has been this lack of action.

Any help you can give would be very, very important because otherwise, your communities will not be getting the money that they have gotten for five plus years and they will either have to cut back on services or increase taxes at the local level.

There is no excuse for the delay. I am always an optimist, but I have been so sorely disappointed in the performance so far that I am very apprehensive, so we have got to get not only the mayors and the Governors and other public officials pressing the Congress, but all of you in your publications can be immensely helpful.

Otherwise, we will wake up some morning and 38,000 or 39,000 communities and 50 States will have potential fiscal chaos on their doorsteps.

MORE



QUESTION: Mr. President, as newspaper people, we have a growing concern about the health of the U.S. Postal Service. Can you enlighten us? (Laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I share that concern. (Laughter) I share it for two reasons.

We have had a couple of unfortunate incidents recently where material was sent out from the President Ford Committee that had to get to a certain location by a certain time and to a certain place, and I understand there was a misdelivery on one and a long delay on another. (Laughter)

I understand the problem but I also have to look at it from the point of view of how much Federal general funding will go in to subsidize the operations of the Post Office -- the Postal Service. The deficit, under the current circumstances, has gotten over \$1 billion and I have to be careful as to what money we take out of the general fund to put into the Postal Service, and I am very, very concerned about the lack of the Postal Service to meet their operating costs.

It is a tough problem. I believe in the concept but I think we somehow have to find a better way for them to get the results all of us want, and there are some studies going on in the Executive Branch independent of the Postal Service itself and the several commissions, or committees, that help to manage it.

Believe me, if we can find an answer we are going to come up with one. We just can't afford to have these kind of deficits on a year-to-year basis.

QUESTION: Mr. President, as long as most of us in this room are in the newspaper business, and your daughter Susan served on the newspaper in Kansas, how has your opinion of the newspaper business changed?

THE PRESIDENT: I love the newspapers (Laughter) and I love the people that do the reporting, too. (Laughter) We get along very well and I am an avid reader of newspapers, to tell you the truth. I think they do a fine job and I also think that the people who cover the White House do a fine job. We don't always agree. I like some headlines better than the others, but they have a responsibility and I have one and I think we understand each one and our respective responsibilities.

QUESTION: Mr. President, other than the economic recovery, what would you say is the major problem confronting your Administration?

MORE



THE PRESIDENT: Of course, the main one is to make certain and positive that we have an economic recovery without reigniting inflation, and I think we are on the right track and all of the signs indicate that we will make more progress in the months ahead than we have in the months behind us.

Other than that, I think trying to get the Congress to move with us on an energy program. We have to do more than has been done. We have to somehow enact legislation that I can sign that will stimulate domestic production.

I saw some figures just a day or so ago that, in the month of February, the imports of foreign crude oil were at the highest rate in the history of the United States -- something over 7 million barrels per day -- and it is going up.

Now, what does that mean? It means with domestic production going down and a greater dependence on foreign oil, we are really subject to the whims and fancies of other countries. So we have to move in this area very, very importantly.

Secondly, in the international scene, number one, we have to convince the Congress that the military budget that I submitted in January for the next fiscal year of \$112.7 billion be approved with, I hope, every program and every policy that I included without change. Now that is too optimistic, but at least we are going to fight to prevent the kind of cutbacks and slashes that Congress has imposed on the Defense Department for the last 5 to 10 years.

If we have that kind of a military program with an improvement in our strategic as well as conventional forces, we can then negotiate from strength for whatever purposes we want, whether it is a SALT II agreement, whether it is in any of the other areas here it is in our national interest.

So if we get that kind of a defense budget through, many of our other problems, both from a national security point of view and from a foreign policy point of view, will be in good shape.

QUESTION: Mr. President, we have been hearing for the last couple of days now in our meetings about the possibility of the consideration of a \$3 minimum wage with 2-1/2 times pay for overtime. Knowing your feelings and your activities regarding inflation, would you comment on that proposal?

MORE



THE PRESIDENT: Those recommendations did not come from this Administration. (Laughter) Those recommendations were generated on Capitol Hill. We are trying to work with the Congress to find an answer. The bill that has been floating around up there I think would have a substantial impact in reigniting some of the fires of inflation, so we are doing our very, very best to find an equitable solution.

The one that I have heard about up on Capitol Hill, in the House and Senate, would not contribute to a stabilization of our economy. It would, in many respects, be harmful.

QUESTION: Mr. President, the other day I expressed to Senator Muskie, Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, the urgent need for long-term financing for the middle level entrepreneur, such as an RFC, to stimulate production and employment. What are your reactions to such a proposal?

THE PRESIDENT: Of course, we do have a number of Federal loaning agencies that do try to help. For example, the Small Business Administration has an important role, but it has a limited scope.

We have two proposals up on Capitol Hill that focus in on two of our major problems and they relate to the question of energy. One is a proposal for the Federal Government to loan or guarantee loans in the synthetic fuel area. I think there is a \$6 billion proposal in that area.

Then we also have the Energy Independence Agency which is a proposal of Federal financing of major breakthroughs in the energy field where, at the present time, the know-how, the expertise is not sufficient for the private sector to put up the necessary capital and the Energy Independence Agency would fill that gap during the interim as they were pushing ahead in some of these exotic fuels. Those two programs have a particular focus on the energy problem.

Other than that, plus the Small Business Administration -- and there are several in the Commerce Department that are aimed at helping minority groups -- I know of no other proposed Federal financing agency that is either in being or recommended.

QUESTION: Would you concur?

THE PRESIDENT: I am hesitant about expanding the Federal Government's financing in the general across-the-board financing area. I vividly recall what the RFC did during the Depression but that met the problems of the 1930s, and the circumstances are quite different today.

MORE



I think we have to pinpoint where the problem is -- small business, minority groups, the energy problem -- rather than across-the-board financing proposals.

QUESTION: Mr. President, the people of South Carolina are suspicious of the word "detente" and I wonder if you care to comment on whether or not the Secretary of State or whoever might be giving away more than we get?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it is categorically untrue that the United States has given away more than we have received. As a matter of fact, we have bargained like good Yankee traders and wherever agreements have been made the United States has come out well.

I strongly disagree with those who say that the United States has not held its own in any negotiations. As a matter of fact, if you look at where we have moved in foreign policy, I believe by any criteria we are ahead.

First, we have peace, and that is fairly important to most people. Number two, let's take some areas in the foreign policy field.

We, of course -- I say we, the United States has played a very major role in the Middle East. We achieved -- working with Israel on the one hand and Egypt on another -- a great breakthrough with the Sinai agreement. It was the second step in trying to hold peace in that area, a very volatile, complex, complicated area.

Another dividend that has come because of the trust that Israel and the Arab nations have in the United States is the fact that President Sadat just earlier this week cut off almost entirely his relations with the Soviet Union. He is no longer dependent on the Soviet Union for any military hardware. That is a tremendous change for the better, in our opinion, and we have, of course, hope and trust that that move of cutting off relations in effect with the Soviet Union will be responded to by the United States Government in any efforts that we can make economically and otherwise.

But you can go around the world and the United States is in good shape and we are in good shape because we are militarily strong, we have achieved peace, we are deterring any aggression that affects our national security.

So the word doesn't mean anything, but the process is important and we are going to continue the process, to continue the success we have had in the past.

MORE



QUESTION: Mr. President, we have heard from Mr. Pike and we have heard from Mr. Bush about the CIA, and Senator Church has now announced he is going to run for your job. Do you feel you can reach a viable compromise with Congress so the CIA can remain effective in a hostile world?

THE PRESIDENT: I proposed about a month ago the necessary things that had to be done, one, to continue the CIA and the intelligence community in the United States strong and effective.

Also, I have approved the necessary limitations on the agencies' efforts as they affect individual rights in this country.

I believe that that proposal that is now in being, with George Bush as the Director, with the legislative recommendations that I have proposed to the Congress, is a good strong intelligence community program.

I hope that the Congress doesn't do things that will harm what we have now achieved.

What the Pike Committee will do--it is going out of business or has gone out of business, and the Church Committee will, I am told, shortly--if they will just approve the several pieces of legislation we have recommended, I think the intelligence community, including the CIA, could do the job that has to be done in peacetime as well as in wartime.

QUESTION: Mr. President, how are the negotiations going in the Panama Canal?

THE PRESIDENT: The negotiations are going on. They have been going on under Mr. Johnson, under Mr. Nixon and under ourselves. There are some very tough issues to be decided. We have not made progress in a meaningful way. We have a very good negotiator down there, and I can't tell you when there will be any conclusion of the negotiations because the issues are tough, but let me emphasize and re-emphasize that the United States, under this Administration, will not do anything to jeopardize the national security of the Canal or the operations of the Canal.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END (AT 4:05 P.M. EST)



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 23, 1976

On Monday, March 22, 1976, President Ford sent to the Congress a message outlining the contributions of science and technology in achieving national objectives and calling on the Congress to enact pending legislation to establish an Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House.

Enclosed for your information are copies of the fact sheet on the President's message, as well as the statement itself.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

*Margita E. White*

Margita E. White  
Assistant Press Secretary  
to the President

Enclosures



March 22, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

The desire and the ability of the American people to seek and apply new knowledge have been crucial elements of the greatness of our country throughout its 200-year history.

Our Founding Fathers placed high value on the pursuit of knowledge and its application. They supported exploration, new methods of agriculture, the establishment of scientific societies and institutions of higher learning, measures to encourage invention, and means to protect and improve the Nation's health.

In our recent history, the Nation has made major investments in research and development activities to ensure their continued contribution to the growth of our economy, to the quality of our lives and to the strength of our defense. Today there is mounting evidence that science and technology are more important than ever before in meeting the many challenges facing us.

I fully recognize that this country's future -- and that of all civilization as well -- depends on nurturing and drawing on the creativity of men and women in our scientific and engineering community.

The 1977 Budget which I submitted to the Congress on January 21, 1976, is one measure of the importance I attach to a strong National effort in science and technology. My total budget restrains Federal spending to \$395 billion -- an increase of 5.5 percent over 1976. But my Budget requests \$24.7 billion for the research and development activities of the various Federal agencies, an increase of 11 percent over my 1976 estimates. Included within this total of \$24.7 billion is \$2.6 billion for the support of basic research, also an increase of 11 percent. Such long-term exploratory research provides the new knowledge on which advances in science and technology depend. I urge the Congress to approve my budget requests.

I also urge the Congress to pass legislation to establish an Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President. This will permit us to have closer at hand advice on the scientific, engineering and technical aspects of issues and problems that require attention at the highest levels of Government.

On June 9, 1975, I submitted a bill to the Congress that would authorize creation of such an office. The director of this new office would also serve as my adviser on science and technology, separating this responsibility from the many demands of managing an operating agency. On November 6, 1975, the House of Representatives passed an acceptable bill, H.R. 10230, which authorizes the new office. On February 4, 1976, the Senate passed a similar

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bill which, with some changes, would also be acceptable. Those bills are now awaiting action by a House-Senate Conference Committee. Early agreement by the conferees on a workable bill will permit me to proceed without further delay in establishing the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

In addition to its direct support of research and development, the Federal Government has a responsibility to ensure that its policies and programs stimulate private investments in science and technology and encourage innovation in all sectors of the economy --- in industry, the universities, private foundations, small business, and State and local Governments. We pursue this objective through our tax laws, cooperative R&D projects with industry, and other incentives.

Industry and other elements of the private sector now support nearly 50 percent of the Nation's total research and development effort and we must avoid displacing these important investments.

The role of industry is particularly important. In our competitive economic system, industry turns new ideas from laboratories into new and improved products and services and brings them to the marketplace for the Nation's consumers. Industry has built successfully on advanced developments of the past and provided new products and services of great economic and social value to the Nation. This can be seen in electronics, computers, aircraft, communications, medical services and many other areas.

My 1977 Budget gives special attention to research and development for energy and defense and to basic research. It also continues or increases support for other important areas such as agriculture, space, and health where research and development can make a significant contribution.

-- In energy, an accelerated research and development program is vital to our future energy independence. My 1977 Budget proposes \$2.6 billion for energy research and development -- a 35 percent increase over 1976. These funds, together with the efforts of private industry, provide for a balanced program across the entire range of major energy technologies. Major increases are proposed in energy conservation to achieve greater energy efficiency. Additional funding is provided in fossil fuels to enhance oil and gas recovery, to improve the direct combustion of coal and to produce synthetic oil and gas from coal and oil shale. Expanded efforts are planned in 1977 to assure the safety and reliability of nuclear power and to continue the development of breeder reactors which will make our uranium resources last for centuries. My 1977 Budget also provides for rapid growth in programs to accelerate development of solar and geothermal energy and fusion power.

-- In defense, a strengthened and vigorous program of research and development is absolutely fundamental to maintain peace in the years ahead. Our National survival depends on our continued technological edge.

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The quality of our military R&D program today -- and decisions on its scope and magnitude -- will directly influence the balance of power in the 1980's and beyond. Obligations for defense research and development will increase by 13 percent in FY 1977, to almost \$11 billion. In the strategic area, the defense R&D program provides for continued development of the Trident submarine and missile system and the B-1 bomber. We are providing increases for cruise missiles and for defining options for a new inter-continental ballistic missile system. For our tactical forces, we will pursue a number of major programs ranging from the F-16 and F-18 fighter aircraft to a new attack helicopter, improved air defense systems, and a new tank. In addition we will strengthen our military-related science and technology effort. The combat potential of new technologies such as high energy lasers will be actively explored.

--- Through basic research, new knowledge is achieved that underlies all future progress in science and technology. My proposed budget provides an increase of 11 percent over my 1976 estimates to assure that the flow of new scientific discoveries continues. Since much of the Nation's basic research is carried out at colleges and universities, I have given special emphasis to the budget request for the National Science Foundation and other agencies that support research in these institutions. I have requested an increase of 20 percent in NSF's funding for basic research in order to underscore my strong support for such research, particularly in colleges and universities.

-- In agriculture, improving the efficiency of American food production is vital to our National well-being and to help ease critical worldwide food shortages. My Budget provides over \$500 million for agricultural research including programs to increase crop yield, improve the nutrition and protein content of crops, and help find new and safer ways to protect crops from the devastating losses which are caused by pests and bad weather. Matching State funds for research at land-grant institutions will contribute an additional \$400 million to the national effort. Within the agricultural research program, greater priority will be given to basic agricultural research which is the key to our longer range objectives in food production. Our agricultural research and research undertaken by others around the world can have a major effect on the world food situation for generations to come.

-- In health, basic and applied medical research provides new knowledge about causes, prevention and cure of diseases. This knowledge will make it possible to reduce the toll of human suffering, reduce expensive medical treatments, and increase the general level of health of our people. For the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare alone my Budget requests over \$2.2 billion to pursue new scientific opportunities relating to cancer, heart and lung disease, arthritis, diabetes, and behavioral disturbances. It will also continue research in emerging areas of National importance such as immunology, aging, environmental health, and health services.

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-- In space, the shuttle is the key to improved operational space capabilities for science, defense, and industry. My 1977 Budget provides the necessary funds to continue development of the shuttle and to assure a balanced program in science and space applications. In the future, space technologies can further advance our National and worldwide needs for better communications, better weather forecasting and better assessment and management of our natural resources. Scientific exploration and observation in space can add immeasurably to our understanding of the universe around us.

My Budget also provides funds for continued research and development in environment, natural resources, transportation, urban development, and other fields of social and economic activity where we will support work that shows promise in meeting the problems of society and the new challenges we face as a Nation.

Prompt and favorable action by the Congress on my proposal to create the new Office of Science and Technology Policy and to approve my 1977 Budget requests are vital to ensure that science, engineering and technology will continue to contribute effectively in achieving our Nation's objectives.

GERALD R. FORD

THE WHITE HOUSE,

March 22, 1976.

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March 22, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

FACT SHEET

THE PRESIDENT'S SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MESSAGE

The President today sent to the Congress a message outlining the important contribution of science and technology in achieving national objectives; calling on the Congress to complete action on legislation to establish an Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House; and urging favorable Congressional action on the request for \$24.7 billion for research and development included in his FY 1977 Budget.

BACKGROUND

- ° On June 9, 1975, the President transmitted to the Congress his proposal to establish an Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President. On November 6, 1975, the House passed legislation acceptable to the President (H.R. 10230). On February 4, the Senate passed a bill which, with some changes, would also be acceptable. The bills are now awaiting action by a House-Senate Conference Committee.
- ° On January 21, 1976, the President transmitted to the Congress his FY 1977 Budget which includes a total of \$24.7 billion for research and development -- an 11 percent increase over the amount estimated for 1976.

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

- ° The legislation proposed by the President called for an Office headed by a Director who would assist the President by:
  - providing advice in policy areas where scientific or technological considerations are involved;
  - helping to assure that the Nation's scientific and technological capabilities are utilized effectively in achieving the Nation's goals; and
  - identifying new opportunities for using science and technology to improve our understanding of national problems and contribute to their solution.
- ° In addition to establishing such an office, the bill passed by the House would declare a national policy on science and technology and establish a committee to appraise the overall Federal science and technology effort.
- ° The President indicated that he would name the Director of the new office as his adviser on science and technology.

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THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUESTS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

## Obligations for R&amp;D in the FY 1977 Budget

(billions of dollars)

	1975 <u>Actual</u>	1976 <u>Estimated</u>	1977 <u>Estimated</u>
<u>Performance of R&amp;D</u>			
Defense, including military-related programs of ERDA	9.6	10.6	12.0
- Space exploration and technology	2.5	2.9	2.9
- Civilian	6.9	7.8	8.6
Subtotal	19.0	21.3	23.5
<u>R&amp;D facilities</u>	.8	.9	1.2
Total	19.8	22.2	24.7

(Further details of R&D funding and programs are provided in Special Analysis P, Federal Research and Development Programs Budget of the United States Government, 1977.)

The President's Budget focuses Federal R&D investments so as to meet:

- Direct Federal needs, where the Government has full responsibility, as in space and national defense.
- General economic and human welfare needs, where the Federal Government must assume major responsibility because incentives are not sufficient for the private sector to invest enough to meet national needs, as in basic research, and in health, environmental, and agricultural research.
- Certain specific national needs, where the Government assists the private sector by using Federal funds to stimulate, accelerate, and augment the efforts of industry in providing needed technological options for the future, as in energy R&D.

Private industry, foundations, universities and others also invest in R&D. The private sector accounts for nearly half of the national investment in R&D.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3/31

NOTE FOR: *Deil Agency* ✓  
FROM : RON NESSEN

FYI

RHN



# EVANS-NOVAK POLITICAL REPORT

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WHAT'S HAPPENING . . . WHO'S AHEAD . . . IN POLITICS TODAY

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To: Our Subscribers

From: Evans-Novak



March 30, 1976 - No. 252