The original documents are located in Box 29, folder "Input - Robert Hartmann" of the Michael Raoul-Duval Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

10/13

TO:

Mr. Hartmann

FROM:

MIKE DUVAL

For your information

Comments:

FORDUISRAAD.

Sand Somers.

Dear Pete:

Thank you for your October 8 letter and for your campaign suggestions.

First, I want you to know how grateful I am for the very affirmative contribution you are making to the campaign. You are a tremendous asset to our team effort.

Your specific campaign recommendations cover areas in which my opponent is very vulnerable, and I appreciate having your views on how these may be emphasized in my speeches.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

FOR OUIBRARY

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc: w/inc to Mike Dowal for appropriate handling bcc: w/inc to Jim Field - FYI

GRF:MLF:JEB:VO:kir

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

October 8, 1976

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Now that you are on the road full-time, permit me to say what an outstanding job you have done so far in closing the gap. I believe that you have a super chance to win this election.

However, please let me make three suggestions that might prove useful to you. If you have already considered these ideas, excuse the redundancy.

First, I believe you must quickly deliver a speech that puts Carter on the defensive. While several areas suggest themselves, I believe that in the area of national defense he has taken positions that contradict themselves and that he is vulnerable. On the B-I bomber and on Korea, as you know, he has been most ambivalent.

Secondly, I would hope that you could deliver a strong speech opposing the "Cradle-to-grave" program so explicitly endorsed in the Democrat Platform that Carter and his people wrote. With so large a majority of Americans opposed to more federal programs, and with the Carter Platform explicitly outlining at least \$100 billion more in new federal programs, I believe that he is vulnerable to a direct attack from you on his call for a balanced budget. You used this tack well in the first debate and Carter seems unnerved by it.

Third, we have some 59 million Americans in the small business sector. Your record on SBA programs is good and your philosophy of encouraging their survival is sound. In addition, this gives you the advantage of supporting "small" business and takes the bite out of charges that we favor only "big" business. On the issues of government regulations and excess taxation on small business you are on the right side and Carter again vulnerable.

Cole

The President October 8, 1976 Page 2

I know most of these suggestions have been incorporated in some form in your campaign. However, I believe that concentration on issues of a small number is now important and could be most productive.

We are with you and I am confident that you can win in November.

With warmest personal regards.

Very truly yours,

Pete V. Domenici United States Senator

PVD/sbcg