

# The President Ford Committee

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August 19, 1975

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BO CALLAWAY  
SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT #6, Week Ending August 16, 1975

ORGANIZATION - We moved over the weekend to our permanent headquarters at 1828 L Street, N. W., Suite 250. Our telephone number will remain the same until early October. The Finance Committee will be moving over with us this coming weekend.

## STATE COMMITTEES

ILLINOIS - Following meetings with Harold Smith, Ned Jennota, Don Adams and others, it was agreed that the strongest Chairman for the Illinois PFC is former Governor Dick Ogilvie. In addition, Honorary Chairmen would be Les Arends and Margaret Church. The Vice Chairmen would include: Chuck Percy, Ed Derwinski, Bob Michel, Jim Beré, Cissy Stiehl, and Harold Smith.

Ogilvie has the statewide political experience and contacts to be a viable, working Chairman. Everyone agrees to this. Smith is to get back in touch after he approaches Ogilvie and clears it with others. An announcement is scheduled for late August.

OHIO - They have an extremely strong, well-organized Republican organization, staffed by 28 people. Everyone, including Governor Rhodes, bows to the Party leadership of Kent McGough, the State Chairman.

Kent wants to delay the formation of any formal PFC in Ohio, as the State Committee is already on record endorsing you, as is the Governor, Senator and most of the Congressmen. He will come back to us with a suggested timetable.

My meeting with Governor Rhodes was issue-oriented. He strongly recommends personal fact-finding trips with the attendant publicity as a means to visually counteract our economic problems. These trips should include Detroit (unemployed), Alaska (pipeline), and West Virginia (shale

oil research center). Such trips, perhaps in conjunction with on-the-spot press briefings, would call attention to your personal concern in finding solutions to our domestic problems and your interest in going to the people for their advice.

TEXAS - Anne Armstrong will work with John Tower and the State Republican Committee to develop a "California-style" Steering Committee for the PFC in Texas. We regard it as our next highest priority and one of national significance. We are aiming at an announcement date of early September.

#### REAGAN COMMITTEE

South - The general approach in the South seems to be taking a stay neutral line. John Sears is saying that "he knows both the President and Bo Callaway are highly thought of, but on the other hand, recent polls show the President slipping. If the South stays neutral and, therefore, ready to go either way in the event he (John Sears) can prove the President can't win, then that's all he's asking." He also is asking the State Party leadership to recommend a contact for them (not necessarily a Reagan State Chairman) whom they can keep in touch with. There seems to be no pressure to make the State Party people endorse Reagan at this time.

Oklahoma - A Reagan Committee, headed by former Republican State Chairman Clarence Warner was organized in Oklahoma. This is the first hard evidence of a formalized Committee in any state. However, they are already having their problems, and Warner has been asked to resign by Committee members.

The State Chairman, Paula Unruh, has remained neutral, as have Dewey Bartlett and Henry Bellmon. We are staying on top of this situation and are making our own contacts.

However, we do not believe we can afford to get into a "reactive" position. Reagan obviously will be making inroads in several states. Our main thrust should remain targeted at key states where potential delegate strength is the greatest -- i.e., Oklahoma with 38 potential delegates as compared to Illinois - 102, Texas - 102, Ohio - 98, Florida - 69, etc. I think it would be a serious mistake at this time to become too defensive, although we will be staying on top of potential problem states.

Reagan Direct Mail - Attached is a copy of the letter which was mailed on August 14th over Paul Laxalt's signature. It is our understanding that over a million of these will be sent during the next few weeks. The potential return may be a factor in his decision whether to run.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION - We are keeping in close touch with Wyman's campaign office, but at their request have not sent any PFC staff to the state.

Polls indicate a dead heat with a large undecided vote. A Presidential endorsement and visit was considered helpful, with people indicating a 63% positive response to endorsement by you as opposed to a 49% positive response for a Reagan endorsement. Based on this information, they now believe that visits by both you and Reagan would be helpful.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN - The PFC has not been officially invited to the National Convention in Dallas on September 10-13, although we understand that campaign organizations usually are not invited.

However, the Michigan President, Diana Forster, called to see how they could help and are now planning to have available buttons, bumper stickers, etc., for distribution and sale at the Convention.

I plan on going to the Convention on September 11 and 12, and with Anne Armstrong's assistance will be talking with various State Presidents in private meetings. I will not be there for your scheduled speech, however, due to a conflict with the Pennsylvania State Central Committee meeting on September 13.

LEGAL - Bob Visser has met with Dean Burch, Ed McCabe, Bob Moot and representatives of the Arthur Andersen Company to finalize legal instructions to Finance Chairmen. These have been submitted to the FEC for their information.

In meetings with Phil Buchen and his staff and Benton Becker, representing the RNC, discussions were held regarding apportionment of Presidential political expenses. This is being finalized by Buchen's staff and a final recommendation is due this week.

Bob has met informally with the legal staff of the Federal Election Commission and will be responsible for all coordination between the FEC and PFC, including State Committees.

FINANCE - \$31,222 was received during the week for a total received to date of \$595,443.

Chairmen have been cleared in Illinois, Montana, New Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

SCHEDULE - WEEK OF AUGUST 18

Monday/ Tuesday	Florida - various meetings arranged by Lou Frey (Ft. Lauderdale, Miami, Sarasota, Tampa, Umatilla, and Orlando)
Tuesday Night/ Wednesday	Atlanta, Georgia (Finance meeting and GOP State Central Committee)
Thursday/ Friday	North Carolina - various meetings with State PFC (Charlotte, Greenville, Raleigh, Greensboro)
Saturday/ Sunday	Southern State Chairmen's Meeting; Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina

cc: Don Rumsfeld



# REAGAN

## for President

**CITIZENS FOR REAGAN**  
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Chairman  
PAUL D. LAXALT,  
United States Senator  
Executive Vice Chairman  
JOHN P. SEARS  
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State of Iowa  
LOUIE B. NUNN,  
Former Governor,  
State of Kentucky  
Mrs. STANHOPE C. RING,  
Former Republican National  
Committeewoman,  
State of California

Dear Fellow American,

The Reagan for President campaign is under way!

Millions of Americans have been anxiously waiting to hear this great news. They know that Ronald Reagan is the one American statesman who can set the nation on the path to peace, prosperity, and freedom.

He has firm and definite solutions to our welfare mess, to rising crime, runaway taxes, crippling inflation, and our out-of-control federal bureaucracy.

Ronald Reagan believes in the wisdom of our founding fathers...limited constitutional government, maximum freedom for the individual, and a healthy, growing, unfettered free enterprise system.

He wants to restore our weakened military posture, and he is determined to stand up to the threat of Communist imperialism.

Ronald Reagan is proud to be an American. You will be proud to have Ronald Reagan as your President.

Now is the time. Today. Join the march for America. Help put Ronald Reagan in the White House!

Make no mistake about it...liberal candidates have already amassed huge war chests for their 1976 Presidential drive. They plan to spend whatever is necessary to continue the policies of big spending, high taxes and increasing government control. Of course, they are aided in their efforts by liberal members of the news media.

This is our chance! Today...send your absolute maximum contribution to the Reagan campaign. Consider what your contribution will mean to the future of our nation. \$10, \$100, or \$1,000--we need your check immediately!

We urgently need hundreds of thousands of dollars to pay for printing, postage, staff salaries, TV & radio, rent, etc.

The future of freedom in America rests in our hands. Don't lay this letter aside! Send your generous contribution today.

Sincerely,

Paul Laxalt, U.S.S.

P.S. With your help, we are going to win!