



March 26, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Rowland Evans

I had lunch today with Rowland Evans at 12:30 p. m. at Sans Souci. He mentioned the problem they are having with highway litter at his property in Rappahannock County, Virginia.

He was also very interested in the Vice President's remarks in New Jersey on the loss of 50-100 seats. He had quite a few views and observations on this. He indicated an adverse reaction from a number of Republicans on the Hill. I pointed out that news reports left out part of the background statements which clarified this remark. This did not satisfy him.

He indicated the desire to make one of the trips with the Vice President. I told him Hartmann and the Press staff would be happy to cooperate with him on the schedule and also would consider his request.

He tried to develop a dialogue on impeachment and the possibility of Ford moving up. I advised him that this was something that was not discussed in the office -- staff effort was directed towards Ford's role as Vice President. He wanted to know if Ford "let his hair down" with any members of the staff on this type of subject, and I indicated not to

my knowledge. He wanted to know those who were closest to Ford, and I indicated there were several who were close, but Bob Hartmann was his closest confidant, and I was not aware of whether the subject of impeachment, etc. was discussed with anyone.

I pointed out that things seemed to be moving and that initial transition problems were being overcome, and that things seemed to be going fine. I mentioned that Bob played a key role in advice and direction and sensing public issues with considerable accuracy.

He mentioned Mel Laird and his relationship which I felt was a close one. He spent some time talking about my old district, Virginia politics, etc.

He indicated that he would like to get together again.

Evans stressed that the meeting was not on the record and not for the purpose of his writing, but rather in the nature of a get-acquainted meeting.

John O. Marsh