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E. G. SHUSTER  
9TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA



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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
August 5, 1974

MOST PERSONAL

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The Vice President of the  
United States of America  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

I am sure you recognize better than I that the painful events of the past several days make it highly probable that soon you will become President.

Should that occur, I most respectfully urge you to weigh the following:

- a. Our Party is tainted -- wrongfully, but nevertheless tainted.
- b. Should you become President an unparalleled opportunity will exist for a "new beginning". The American people will rally 'round you.
- c. Should you select a responsible southern Democrat as your Vice President with the understanding that he will join you in re-structuring a party of Republicans and conservative Democrats, you could forge a "new majority". Perhaps it would take two steps. First, a "New Republican Party" and a "Conservative Democratic Party"; then a merger of the two for '76.

The philosophy of government would reflect the feelings of most Americans, and be in rhythm with the tide of history.

In the process, you would negate one of your own previous statements, for, in this century, a Ford could become a Lincoln.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bmd", written over the word "Respectfully,".

E. G. Shuster  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

EGS:ame



BOB TRAXLER  
8TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEES:  
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CIVIL SERVICE

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

August 6, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Vice President:

Recent events make clear to me that you will soon become President of the United States. I would like to offer my personal support during these critical hours and express hope that the transfer of power will take place swiftly, with continuity, and not in an air of crisis or disaster.

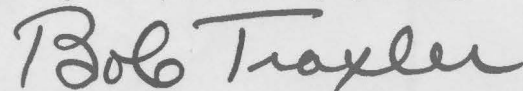
I urge you to begin immediately to assemble a staff and plan the structure of your Administration. It is so important to our nation that we put the horrors of Watergate behind us. As a Member of the House of Representatives, I believe that Congress should work closely with you to find solutions to the grave economic problems that face our country.

No man is better equipped than you, Mr. Vice President, by virtue of your integrity, your honesty, and your dedication to our country to unify our people and restore confidence in government and politics. You can restore faith in the rule of law and our Constitutional processes. With that faith restored, our free institutions will survive.

The power of the Presidency is a public trust, and the people must be able to believe and rely on their President. When that faith is undermined, the very basis of government is undermined. You can restore that faith.

I wish you the best in the trying times ahead and pledge my full support and cooperation.

Very respectfully yours,



BOB TRAXLER  
Member of Congress



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

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Bob Traxler  
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
Washington, D. C. 20510



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

8/6

Dear Bob

I interviewed at OMB yesterday for Hal Eberle's job as Director of Congressional Relations. That was at 2<sup>00</sup> PM before the dam broke.

I interviewed with Hal and Stan Eberle OMB's General Counsel.

I'm writing you because I'm disturbed by the flavor of the conversation which was strongly advocating an exuberant role with additional manpower for OMB congressional activity justified by Eberle because OMB is out front and committed to stay out front.

The implications to me are that Cabinet members will have less and less discretion in directing and negotiating their department goals and objectives with the Congress.

When we were on the Hill together





This was one of our biggest gups.

With the President's situation so dramatically changed since that interview I felt compelled to mention this to you.

I believe it merits watching very closely.

Best regards

Jim Lore



EDITH GREEN  
3D DISTRICT, OREGON

COMMITTEE:  
APPROPRIATIONS

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

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
PHONE: 225-4811

PORTLAND OFFICE  
STAN SWAN  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
PHONE: 221-2123

PERSONAL  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

August 7, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The Vice President of the  
United States  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

This letter may be very presumptuous or what I suggest may already have been considered by you and rejected. Nevertheless, I write it because of my deep concern about our country and because of my great respect and affection for you.

As I see it, there is a great likelihood that you will be the 38th President of the United States. I hope this will be soon and that the transition will be orderly. Assuming the Presidency at this time means you have additional burdens and responsibilities imposed on few Presidents in our nation's history.

What I suggest for your consideration comes from no partisan consideration. It is suggested because our country desperately needs to be united and because I firmly believe you have the capacity to do this and to restore the moral order of the Presidency.

When (and if) you become President, for the first time in the history of our country, we will have a President and a Vice President -- neither one of whom has been elected by the American people. I do not believe this was ever intended by the authors of our Constitution. Also, it may provide the basis for continuous sniping by the press, in spite of the 25th Amendment.

Determined to be an  
Administrative Marking

By SD NARA, Date 6/9/2015



August 7, 1974

May I suggest that in your first speech to the Congress you ask for the authority to call a special election, even if this requires a Constitutional change. Congress and State Legislatures can act expeditiously if the situation warrants it. Citing the reasons for such a request in an eloquent appeal, I can think of nothing which would have a better chance of restoring confidence in government. The fact that you are willing to let the American people pass judgment on your own leadership, when it is not required, would be the greatest evidence possible of your own belief in Constitutional government and the greatest expression of your own confidence in the ability and wisdom of the American people themselves.

That you would be perfectly willing to risk a secure position in a greater cause would demonstrate what many of us in Congress already know -- your devotion to your country and the welfare of its people. I hope it is obvious to you that I would not suggest this if I were not prepared to offer you my own unqualified support. If you should decide that this would be a wise course of action, I feel sure you would be elected by the biggest landslide ever. There would be millions of Republicans and Democrats ready to rally to your leadership, precisely because millions are earnestly searching for a leader who places country above all other considerations. They are hungry for evidence that "all politicians are not the same"; they are hungry for a return to those principles which made our country great.

In suggesting this, I also am aware that if you made such a request to Congress, the results of the regular November elections might be exactly the reverse of what is today being predicted by the political "experts". I'm willing to accept this because the future of my country also means far more to me than my Democratic label. I'm also aware that there are problems connected with such a course of action, but I'm convinced they are not insurmountable.

This may sound like a far-out idea -- but perhaps the crisis of the American spirit calls for far-out action as did the great crisis of the 1930's.

Sincerely,

*Edith*

Edith Green

EG:dm





8/1 - Given to the V.P.  
by Don Riegle

As is well known to all, I have time and again emphatically emphasized my deep personal faith in President Nixon and my belief that he has not committed impeachable offenses. I repeat today my firm and complete support of the President.

I am also profoundly mindful of the solemn constitutional obligation that now faces the House of Representatives -- a body of our government that I love and revere, where I was honored and privileged to serve for 25 years.

The recent action of the House Judiciary Committee to forward three articles of Impeachment to the full House, has served to place a new and monumental responsibility on each of the 435 members of the House. I have the very deepest personal respect for my former colleagues of the House -- I respect the fact that each one must, in the end, make a personal and individual judgment on this profound issue -- and I believe that in virtually every instance the decisions reached will be based only on the evidence, precise constitutional requirements and individual conscience.

DRAFT - 2

I am not a dis-interested party in these proceedings -- having both the deepest personal feelings about this matter -- as well as specific Vice Presidential responsibilities, consitutionally assigned to me, which demand my complete faith and dedication. So for me, personally, I find myself in an agonizing situation which I did not seek -- fervently wish had not come about -- but which I cannot and will not shrink from.

We are a great and magnificent country -- and our constitutional processes have served us well for 198 years -- are serving us well now -- and will continue to for generations to come. So while these are difficult days -- we can and will endure them.

I have decided that it would be inappropriate for me to approach and attempt to influence any of my former colleagues in the House. If any House member wishes to speak with me, I will be available to them, as a friend, as I always have been. I have always respected sincere differences of opinion on complex public questions and issues -- and while my own views are well known and very deeply held -- I think we have come to the time where it would be improper and inappropriate for me to intrude in the pending deliberations in the House of Representatives.

DRAFT - 3

It is my sincere hope that the House of Representatives will not vote formal articles of impeachment -- and I will make no further public comment on the matter until the House of Representatives has finally worked its will.

Helpful Suggestions from M.C.

Day's Date 8 AUG 1974

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Date Mailed

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Routed to for Reply

Reply Date to  
Mail Room

Vice President

Robert T. Hartmann

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15 AUG 1974  
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*Hugh Carey re: recommendations for a Ford  
Further Sorting and Special Instructions  
Administration*

Reply Mailed

\_\_\_\_\_



*Ed*

HUGH L. CAREY  
15TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:  
WAYS AND MEANS  
JOINT ECONOMIC

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

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225 CADMAN PLAZA EAST,  
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BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201

7718 FOURTH AVENUE  
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11209

August 7, 1974

Vice-President Gerald R. Ford  
Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Mr. Vice-President:

As a former colleague, and as one who voted to confirm you as Vice President, I urge you to consider these recommendations.

It is now apparent that you will soon be the President of the United States. To pretend otherwise is simply an act of delusion. Mr. Nixon's virtual admission of guilt makes his removal from office, either by resignation, or by impeachment and conviction, a certainty.

You have been loyal to the President, speaking around the country in his behalf and attacking his political opponents. I understand this concept of party loyalty; but we are now in a condition far too serious for the ordinary political rules to apply.

For the first time in our history, we will have a President who was not elected by all the people. Since both Mr. Nixon and Mr. Agnew will have left office because of their involvement in criminal conduct, you will succeed to the Presidency under the terms of the 25th amendment or as a result of the constitutional removal from office of the President at the end of the impeachment process. And you will assume this office in a time of unequalled mistrust and cynicism about government.

I believe the most effective way you can counter this mood is to create, in effect, a "coalition government" -- deliberately going outside the political boundary lines of Republican and Democrat to staff your cabinet, and selecting men and women whose integrity and commitment to public service is unquestionable.



Vice-President Gerald R. Ford

Page 2

August 7, 1974

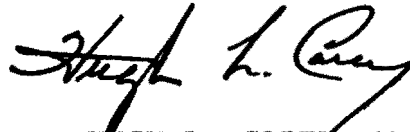
Apart from the leadership of Congress, I have in mind people such as Elliot Richardson, John Gardner, Douglas Dillon, George Meany, Leonard Woodcock, Esther Peterson, Mary Lasker, Melvin Laird, Luis Ferre, Teodoro Moscoso, Vernon Jordan, Sol Linowitz, Cyrus Vance, Judge Edward Re, Roy Wilkins, John Dunlop and George Ball.

There are, of course, many others; but these men and women, of varying political persuasions, all possess the sense of vision and integrity we desperately need.

The restoration of trust and confidence in government is our most critical need. I urge you to begin this process now.

May Providence guide you in your days ahead as you assume inevitably now, the duty of our highest office under law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Hugh L. Carey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "H" and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

HUGH L. CAREY, M.C.

HLC:kej



TOM MCCALL  
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE CAPITOL  
SALEM 97310

August 8, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
Vice President  
Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

You have a great chance now. It's your turn.  
It's your time. The role of stalwart loyalist can end.  
You played it well, doggedly and honestly.

Earnest defenders of the President had no  
choice. Their consciences made them stick, and made  
them shift.

You arrived at a breathless moment. You don't  
have to run for it, or connive for it, or buy it, or trade  
any bit of your soul to be President. The hour of destiny  
is such that you needn't become colorful or witty or  
Bryanesque. Come on with what you have -- integrity, dignity  
and equanimity. Forget the game-playing in the House of  
Representatives. You belong to us all, Democrats, Republicans  
and independents alike.

The nation cries out for better, and it's in your  
capacity to supply. And it calls on you to restore progressivism,  
openness, courage, vision and the other attributes of states-  
manship to the Office of the President of the United States  
and bring with you an amalgam of people of supreme merit,  
regardless of party affiliation.

In short, Sir, the smirch is behind us. You can  
till with a shining plow. For God and America, faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom McCall".

Tom McCall  
Governor of Oregon