

The original documents are located in Box 19, folder “Vice President - House Suggestions, A-Mh (5)” of the Robert T. Hartmann Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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GLENN R. DAVIS
9TH DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

HOME OFFICE:
N82 W15340 APPLETON AVENUE
MENOMONEE FALLS, WISCONSIN 53051
TELEPHONE: 255-1730

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

TEL: 202-225-5101

August 13, 1974

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE
ON BUDGET CONTROL

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
JAMES BOLTON

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

My suggestions relating to national leaders to be considered for the Vice Presidency are as follows:

1. George Bush
2. Senator William Brock
3. Governor Linwood Holton

I make these suggestions on the basis of two considerations that I have reached:

1. That Governor Rockefeller and Senator Goldwater were pushed out of the gate too fast and collided before they reached the first turn;

2. As a practical matter, I do not believe that those who would otherwise be my choices who are the products of the House of Representatives and come from the midwest would be favorably received.

With much esteem and friendship, I am

Sincerely,


GLENN R. DAVIS, M. C.

GRD:ebp

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Glenn R. Davis

M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford

The White House

Washington, D. C. 20500



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JOHN DELLENBACK
OREGON-4TH DISTRICT

August 13, 1974

Dear Jerry,

As you prepare to make the critically important choice of your Vice-Presidential nominee, I would urge your most careful attention to the names and qualifications of Nelson Rockefeller and Mark Hatfield.

Each would bring to your side integrity to match your own, great ability, a solid background in state government, a widely held national respect, an absence of narrow political partisanship, an important separation from the previous administration, and broad support within the Congress.

In addition, Nelson Rockefeller holds an almost unequalled rapport with the business, labor and economic community that could be invaluable at this time of economic crisis. At the same time Mark Hatfield holds an almost unequalled position of respect and regard among the young, the elderly, minorities and those of strong religious faith that would be invaluable in an administration to which it is vital to hold high an ideal around which the nation could rally and to which it could seek to rise.

May God be with you and guide you.

Supportively yours,


JOHN DELLENBACK
Member of Congress

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

DAVID W. DENNIS
10TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

1535 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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

August 12, 1974

DISTRICT OFFICES:

WESTCOTT HOTEL
10TH AND MAIN STREETS
RICHMOND, INDIANA 47374
PHONE: (317) 966-6125

101, U.S. FEDERAL BUILDING
401 SOUTH HIGH STREET
MUNCIE, INDIANA 47305
PHONE: (317) 289-7948

10, U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
BUILDING
205 SOUTH MAIN STREET
BLUFFTON, INDIANA 46714
PHONE: (219) 824-4318

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

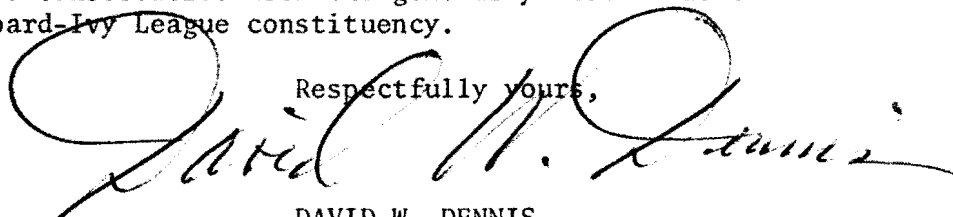
Dear Mr. President:

Regarding Vice Presidential choices, I would say first of all, the nominee must be someone acceptable to you personally; next, he should be reasonably close to your own political philosophy, so as to assure continuity in any and all events; finally, he should be a man capable of serving as President if the need unfortunately arose.

Aside from these general and basic observations, I personally would recommend the following:

1. Senator Barry Goldwater - because he is widely respected and liked; he represents a generally sound conservative philosophy; and he is not a future candidate for the Presidency, but well deserves the honor for his past services.
2. George Bush - because he is a young, personable, intelligent and well-liked person whose politics are those of a reasonable conservative. Also, he adds some international affairs background to domestic politics.
3. Senator James Buckley - an intelligent, attractive and articulate conservative from the generally liberal-left Eastern Seaboard-Ivy League constituency.

Respectfully yours,



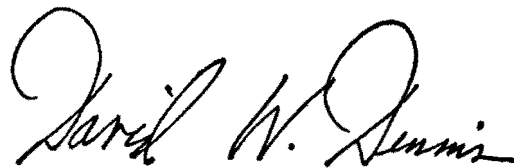
DAVID W. DENNIS
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David W. Dennis".

M.C.

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

EDWARD J. DERWINSKI
4TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEES:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES ON:

AFRICA, STATE DEPARTMENT

ORGANIZATIONS AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
AND MOVEMENTS

POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

SUBCOMMITTEES ON:

MANPOWER AND CIVIL SERVICE,

POSTAL SERVICE

MEMBER:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION

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

August 13, 1974

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1401 LONGWORTH BUILDING 20515
(202) 225-3961

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PALOS HILLS, ILLINOIS 60465
(312) 598-6700

Room 1852-A

EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN BUILDING
219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604
(312) 353-4509

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Pursuant to your request, I am pleased to submit the names of possible nominees for the office of Vice President. Even though it was not requested, I am also adding a list of those I deem most inappropriate for the office.

My three choices, not necessarily in the order listed, are George Bush, Jim Buckley and Don Rumsfeld. The arguments in favor of George Bush and Don Rumsfeld are the same; valuable experience with excellent diplomatic achievements and Republican Party-Administration responsibilities but completely free from any Watergate or CREEP taint. Jim Buckley is a great spokesman for legitimate conservatism and demonstrated in his 1970 victory that the public wants this kind of Republican rather than the liberal turn-coat type. All three are what I consider to be the right age.

Other possibilities that come to my mind are Rogers Morton, Bill Brock, Howard Baker and former Governor Ogilvie of Illinois.

I share the sentimental attachment that a majority of the Republican House and Senate Members have for Barry Goldwater, Sr., but I believe that his age cannot be overlooked. The age factor, I believe, would apply with equal logic to Governors Reagan and Rockefeller. For very practical reasons, it is my judgment that Elliot Richardson, Bill Ruckelshaus and Chuck Percy, and similar types, would seem to be inappropriate for the office of Vice President.

Or, Jerry, you might always consider Notre Dame's Ara Parseghian.

Sincerely yours,



Edward J. Derwinski, M.C.

EJD/bh

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Edward J. Derwinski
M. C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.



SAMUEL L. DEVINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TWELFTH DISTRICT
OHIO

August 12, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

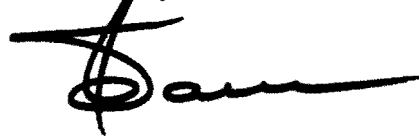
Your desire to receive suggestions for the Office of Vice President is commendable and I would trust you would give the following serious consideration:

George Bush
Bill Brock
Mel Laird
Governor Reagan
Senator Goldwater

There are, of course, other qualified men, but in talking to the "Good Guys", the above are most acceptable and they seem to have a strong aversion to Elliot Richardson, Chuck Percy and Senator Brooke.

I am sure whatever selection you make will be in the best interests of the country.

Sincerely,



President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

SAMUEL L. DEVINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

WILLIAM L. DICKINSON
2ND DISTRICT, ALABAMA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2436 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: AREA CODE (202) 225-2901
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

2ND DISTRICT COUNTIES:

BARBOUR	CRENSHAW
BULLOCK	DALE
BUTLER	GENEVA
COFFEE	HENRY
CONECUH	HOUSTON
COVINGTON	MONTGOMERY
PIKE	

WALTER J. BAMBERG
FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT OFFICES:
ROOM 401 POST OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: AREA CODE (205) 265-5611, EXT. 453
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104

FEDERAL BUILDING
100 WEST TROY STREET
PHONE: AREA CODE (205) 794-9680
DOTHAN, ALABAMA 36301

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

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

August 12, 1974

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

Dear Mr. President:

My last suggestion for a Vice Presidential selection was accepted, so I'd like to try again and see if I can bat 1000%.

I am sure that most, if not all, of us would like to see a balanced Presidential-Vice Presidential team in office just as much as if it were an election. For this and other reasons, I believe George Bush would be my first recommendation for the Vice Presidential slot.

George is young, physically attractive, a native-born New Englander with a Southwest background. He is articulate and energetic, and has sufficient stature being a former Member of Congress, Ambassador to the United Nations, and now as Chairman of the National Republican Party. He has no political scars that I am aware of, and is personally very popular with all who know him. Most of my Republicans at home support him for this selection, including my State Chairman, Committeeman and Committee Woman.

My second choice would be Ronald Reagan for many reasons, most of them obvious. He would be one whale of an asset to the ticket in 1976 if it should be a Ford-Reagan team.

My third suggestion is that it would be a mistake to consider anyone from New York, and Charlie Goodell shouldn't be allowed in the White House, even as a visitor. I sincerely



President Gerald R. Ford

2.

August 12, 1974

hope you have had your last dealings with our opportunistic former colleague.

I can appreciate how difficult your decision is and will enthusiastically support whomever you select -- so long as he is not from New York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill".

WM. L. DICKINSON



WLD:bb

JOHN J. DUNCAN
2D DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

COMMITTEE:
WAYS AND MEANS

117 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: (AREA CODE 202) 225-5435

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

COUNTIES:

BLOUNT
CAMPBELL
CLAIBORNE
KNOX
LOUDON
MCMINN
MONROE
SCOTT
UNION

August 13, 1974

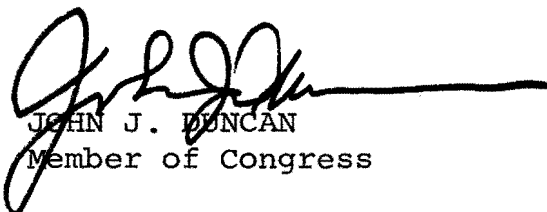
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I appreciate very much your offer to accept for consideration as Vice President suggestions from Members of the Congress.

I have the utmost confidence in your judgment in selecting an individual who will reflect credit upon your administration, as well as the Republican Party. I want to assure you that whomever your select will have my complete support. Although I am from the Republican stronghold of East Tennessee, I can accept and support any of the fifteen or so mentioned in the news media. I want to see a strong national party, and I do not rule out anyone.

Sincerely,



JOHN J. DUNCAN
Member of Congress

JJD/pd

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

John J. Duncan
M.C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

PIERRE S. DU PONT, IV
AT LARGE
DELAWARE

August 13, 1974

President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

My dear Mr. President:

I appreciate your interest in my views on the selection of the Vice President.

I know you are considering a number of able men of high integrity as your nominee, but may I suggest another quality to be considered.

I believe it is time that we sought a younger man to join the highest councils of our government - a man who came into politics in the late 50's or early 60's, for example, and who has the fresh viewpoint of those years.

Many individuals fit these qualifications. Two that I would recommend to you are George Bush (former Ambassador to the United Nations) and Howard Baker (U.S. Senator from Tennessee). These men represent the kind of leadership we should be seeking as we launch our country into a new era of American history.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'P. du Pont', written in a cursive style.

Pierre S. du Pont
Member of Congress

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

JACK EDWARDS
1ST DISTRICT, ALABAMA

2439 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
TELEPHONE: 202 225-4931

DISTRICT OFFICES:
FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING, SUITE 8011
109 ST. JOSEPH STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36602
TELEPHONE: 205 690-2811

GROVE HILL, ALABAMA 36451
TELEPHONE: 205 275-3344

COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
DEFENSE
TRANSPORTATION

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

August 12, 1974

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on candidates for Vice President. It is my firm belief that you should name a vice president who can appeal to the young people of this country in a positive way. I believe then that you should consider someone like Senator Bill Brock or George Bush, or Governor Kit Bond of Missouri. Maybe they aren't household words yet, but they could be by 1976.

Some argue that you should name Nelson Rockefeller for the stability he would bring to the Administration. Frankly, I think you are stable enough. He is a real leader, but he would be 68 years old in 1976. If he were 45 years old, I would say he should be considered.

Finally, there seems to be a feeling that all "conservatives" want either Senator Barry Goldwater or Governor Ronald Reagan. This is not necessarily true. They are both fine men, but they are getting along in years and frankly, I don't think you need anyone to the right of you.

You are at the right age as President. But I believe you need a "bright" young (40-45 or so) person in the number 2 spot if we are to look to the future.

Sincerely,


Jack Edwards

JE:ith

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Jack Edwards
M.C.

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500

)
)

JOHN N. ERLNBORN
14TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEES:
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
EDUCATION AND LABOR

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: (202) 225-3515

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OFFICE:

DU PAGE COUNTY CENTER
421 NORTH COUNTY FARM ROAD
WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60187
PHONE: (312) 668-1417

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

August 13, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

My choice for the nomination for Vice President is George Bush. It seems to me he has more of the important assets and fewer of the important liabilities than any other aspirant who comes to mind.

1. He has been one of the two most articulate spokesmen for our Party during the past difficult year. I need not remind you who, in my view, is the other.

2. He is attractive personally. People tend to like him on sight.

3. He has almost no political enemies. This, it seems to me, more than compensates for the weakness of his national constituency.

4. He is a Republican; and the people voted Republican in 1972.

5. He knows -- and is known in -- Congress.

6. His term as Ambassador to the United Nations has given him an insight into foreign affairs.

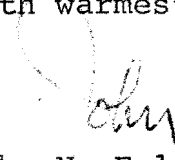
7. Before he entered government service, he was a successful business man. I feel certain he will stand up well in the searching inquiries which are sure to be made by both the House and the Senate.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford

-2
August 13, 1974

A copy of my letter to President Nixon last October 11 is enclosed because it suggests that, at this moment, I am batting 1.000 in suggesting nominees for Vice President. I welcome this opportunity to keep my average at the same level.

With warmest regards,



John N. Erlenborn, M. C.
2430 House Office Building

JNE:gzm
Enclosure

October 11, 1973

The Honorable Richard M. Nixon
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am informed that you welcome suggestions from Members of Congress as to whom you should nominate for Vice President. I propose the Honorable Gerald R. Ford of Michigan.

There seems little need for me to enumerate Jerry Ford's qualifications. His record and his presence speak for themselves. You are cognizant of his attributes and I believe they are equally evident to all Americans.

Yours sincerely,

John N. Erlenborn, M. C.
2430 House Office Building

JNE:gzm

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

John N. Erlenborn

M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

MARVIN L. ESCH
SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
MICHIGAN

August 13, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

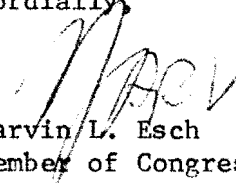
I am pleased to recommend to you the following names for your consideration. They are listed in no particular order as I know you will have advise and counsel from many other sources concerning the merits and weaknesses of each of the candidates. My suggestions are:

George Bush
Nelson Rockefeller
Elliot Richardson
Melvin Laird

Although I have named Melvin Laird on the list, I believe he could be even more effective as a key assistant to you rather than as a Vice President.

If I can be of any direct assistance to you on this or any other matter, please call on me.

Cordially,


Marvin L. Esch
Member of Congress

MLE:sg

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

{ WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

✓
EDWIN D. ESHLEMAN
16TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COUNTIES:
LANCASTER CHESTER (PART)
LEBANON (PART)

COMMITTEE:
EDUCATION AND LABOR

SELECT EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE
(RANKING MINORITY MEMBER)

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 13, 1974

STAFF IN CHARGE:
WASHINGTON OFFICE
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
416 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-2411

LANCASTER OFFICE:
GEORGE W. JACKSON
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
210 U.S. POST OFFICE
LANCASTER, PA. 17604
TELEPHONE: (717) 393-0666

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President of the United States
The White House

Dear Jerry:

In compliance with John Rhodes's request, following
are my three suggestions:

George Bush -- if you want a moderate

Ronald Reagan -- if you want a conservative

Nelson R. Rockefeller -- if you want a liberal

As I said in an earlier letter, you know you have
my very best wishes.

Cordially,


Edwin D. Eshleman

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Edwin D. Eshleman
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford