

The original documents are located in Box 20, folder “Vice President - House Suggestions, Mi-Z (5)” of the Robert T. Hartmann Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

BURT L. TALCOTT
TWELFTH DISTRICT
CALIFORNIA

August 12, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for inviting us to propose suggestions for your nomination for Vice President.

I use this entre to say:

1. Your "swearing in" speech was superb -- and favorably received. I applaud you for letting your faith show strongly.
2. As much as we would like to have you visit, live or build an alternate "White House" in our area, "Pebble Beach" is not an address for a President of "all the people" or "the common man." Other, more appropriate, arrangements can be made near Cyprus.
3. I tender my full support -- personally and legislatively, to your programs, and to Jack Marsh. I commend your using Jack -- an able, effective, dedicated, true friend and patriot.
4. Jim Lynn is an effective Secretary of HUD who is popular in the Congress with both Republicans and most Democrats. I suggest that you keep him and strongly advocate housing, urban development and elementary and secondary education via revenue sharing.

President Ford
Page 2

5. For Vice President: George Schultz is wise, experienced, acceptable to business and labor, confirmable, clean, and will not "up-stage" you during the interim until 1976. George Bush is attractive, articulate, with House and U.N. experience, appealing to young, a helpful Vice Presidential candidate for 1976. Neither has a "polarized constituency." You need not go "liberal" as long as you fight inflation.

Lee and I wish you and Betty the best of everything.

Sincerely,



BURT L. TALCOTT
U.S. Congressman

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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

GENE TAYLOR
7TH DISTRICT, MISSOURI

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

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
1221 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6536

August 13, 1974

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

Dear President Ford:

First of all let me extend to you my congratulations on your tremendous address to the Joint Session of Congress last night.

I have received numerous telephone calls from my District this morning from both Republicans and Democrats who were certainly moved and inspired by your speech. Needless to say our Nation needed the lift that you have given it and I feel quite confident that under your leadership will emerge a new and meaningful bipartisan effort and a new spirit of cooperation between the Executive and Legislative Branches of government.

I fully recognize the responsibility that you are now facing in the selection of a nominee under the 25th Amendment to be our new Vice President. First of all I would like to assure you that I will support your nominee regardless of who it may be.

I would only say that it would be my feeling that the nomination of someone from the ultraliberal wing of the Party would probably not be in the interest of Party unity. By this I would specifically list the names of Richardson, Percy, and Brooke.

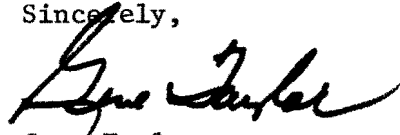
Being a practical politician who has worked in the political arena on behalf of our Party for many years I fully recognize the importance of broadening the base of Party support which of necessity must include many loyal and dedicated Republicans who are less conservative in nature than myself and I think that it is important that we recognize that as a Republican Party we must be bound together by the mutual ties that are far more important than the trivial differences that tend to divide us from time to time on a philosophical basis.

August 13, 1974

Again, I want to pledge to you my wholehearted support for your Administration and may God bless you and your entire family in the days that lie ahead.

Warm personal regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gene Taylor".

Gene Taylor
Member of Congress

GT:fw

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Gene Taylor
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20515

✓
VERNON W. THOMSON
3d DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2305 RAYBURN BUILDING
(202) 225-5506

HOME OFFICE:
RICHLAND CENTER, WISCONSIN

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

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AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS
NATIONAL SECURITY

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

August 13, 1974

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

My recommendation for Vice President would be either Melvin R. Laird or Nelson Rockefeller.

Let me further state that the man that you do select will have my full support because I am very confident of your judgment.

This is probably a very good time for me to affirm my unqualified support to you, and assure you that I will cooperate in every way to make your Presidency a great one.

With warm personal regards, I am

Respectfully yours,



VWT/jwg

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

Kennon W. Thomson

M. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

1974 AUG 15 AM 8

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, DC 20500



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

DAVID G. TOWELL
AT LARGE
NEVADA

August 13, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

In order that you may have a full consensus from the United States Congress of our collective and individual thoughts on a prospective candidate to fill the office of the Vice President of the United States, I hereby submit the following names: The Honorable Howard H. Baker, Jr., United States Senator from Tennessee; The Honorable Daniel J. Evans, Governor of the State of Washington; and the Honorable George Bush, Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

I am sure their qualifications are all very well-known to you. I would like to point out one factor in that they are all relatively young men who could provide this country stability and leadership for many years to come. I fully realize that time is of the essence in this decision and respectfully submit that any of these men would be fully qualified for the job, and their speedy confirmation would have a great psychological effect on this country.

Your final decision will have my complete support and respect.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David G. Towell".

DAVID G. TOWELL
Congressman for Nevada

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

✓
DAVID C. TREEN
THIRD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES

MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE AND
FISHERIES

MEMBER:
REPUBLICAN TASK FORCE ON
ENERGY AND RESOURCES

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

August 13, 1974

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

RE: Vice Presidential Nominee

Dear Mr. President:

I have given very careful and deliberate thought over the past four days to your request that all Republican Members of Congress suggest Vice Presidential nominees. I have approached this by making a list of every possible qualified individual, and then proceeded by the process of elimination.

In doing this I have asked myself (1) what person would best serve as President in the event succession became necessary, (2) from a Party standpoint who would be of most assistance in building the Republican Party and (3) who would have reasonably certain chances of being confirmed by both the House and Senate.

I have concluded that any one of the following three persons would meet those requirements, and have listed them in preferential order:

First Choice: Governor Ronald Reagan

Second Choice: Senator Barry Goldwater

Third Choice: Honorable George Bush

I do not believe that any person prominently connected with the Watergate matter should be selected, nor anyone who pronounced early judgment on Mr. Nixon. For this reason I strongly recommend against choosing Elliot Richardson.

From a partisan standpoint, I believe it would be very devisive to select Senator Charles Percy.

In the South, where our potential for Republican growth is greatest, the selection of Nelson Rockefeller would be harmful.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Treen", written in dark ink.

DAVID C. TREEN
Member of Congress

DCT/fw

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

David C. Green
M.C.

The President of the United States
c/o Honorable John J. Rhodes
Minority Leader
Room H232, Capitol

INSIDE

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

David C. Green
M.C.

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

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

August 12, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Our Minority Leader has indicated that you would appreciate receiving Members' suggestions for candidates for the office of Vice President.

My personal recommendation is Chairman George Bush.

Sincerely,



Guy Vander Jagt
Member of Congress

GVJ:mlt

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Guy Vander Jagt

M.C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

✓ VICTOR V. VEYSEY
CALIFORNIA

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

(202) 225-2305

August 13, 1974

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274 EAST ROWLAND
SUITE G
COVINA, CALIFORNIA 91723
(213) 966-1611

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

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to suggest that Governor Ronald Reagan of California be selected for Vice President, for the following reasons:

1. He is the most compelling spokesman our Party has in enunciating Republican philosophy.
2. He attracts great attention and following everywhere.
3. He is an ideal candidate who would lend sparkle to the ticket.
4. He is an experienced and successful administrator.
5. He would be able to activate the conservative branch of our Party which is now sitting on its hands.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,



Victor V. Veysey
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Victor V. Veysey
M.C.

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

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

BY PAGE
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Victor V. Veysey
M.C.

The Honorable John J. Rhodes
2310 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515