# The original documents are located in Box 30, folder "Presidential Meetings with Members of The House of Representatives, 11/1/75-11/20/75" of the Loen and Leppert Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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GREET REP. ALAN STEELMAN (R. -TEXAS)

Thursday, November 6, 1975 12:00 p.m. (10 minutes) The Oval Office

Via: Max Friedersdorf From: Tom Loeffler

### I. PURPOSE

 Opportunity for Rep. Steelman to inform you of his potential plan to run for the Senate seat from Texas presently occupied by Senator Lloyd Bentsen (D.)
Unrelated to the above, he will briefly present a small model automobile made by Dallas high school students.

### II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

### A. Background

- During your recent trip to Dallas, Congressman Steelman mentioned the possibility of his entry into the Texas Senatorial race. Of course, circumstances obviously prevented further discussion. The Congressman now wishes to officially inform you of his intention and in no way intends at this time to solicit your support.
- Congressman Steelman has discussed his plans for this race with Senator Tower, Governor Connally, Ambassador Bush, Congressman Bill Archer, Congressman Jim Collins, Senator Ted Stevens, and all appropriate Texas GOP leaders.
- The Congressman spent all of August touring the State of Texas. Mr. Fred Myer, Senior Vice President of the Tyler Corporation, has agreed to serve as Steelman's State Campaign Chairman. (Mr. Myer is a good friend of Mr. Trammel Crow.)

- 4. Realizing that his entry into the senatorial race would leave vacant a previously Republican occupied congressional seat, Congressman Steelman believes that Ms. Nancy Judy would be an excellent GOP candidate who could win and retain this seat as Republican. According to Steelman, Ms. Judy is 39 years old, attractive, intelligent, previously a Dallas GOP Precinct Chairman, presently a member of the Dallas School Board, and a candidate who can be expected to have complete Dallas GOP support in a race for the congressional seat. Congressman John Rhodes met and talked with Ms. Judy during a recent visit in Dallas.
- 5. The Congressman has formally announced his support for your election in 1976.
- 6. In a letter dated October 3, 1975, Congressman Steelman and 87 of his colleagues signed a letter to you urging your support and leadership in encouraging Congress to enact a Constitutional Amendment which would prohibit forced busing. On October 28, 1975 Congressman Steelman sent another letter cosigned by six other Members, again urging your support of a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit forced busing.
- 7. Congressman Steelman will briefly present a small model automobile mounted on a plaque. This model automobile was made by Dallas high school students and given to the Congressman in order that he could present it to you.

в.	Participants:	The President
		Rep. Alan Steelman

C. Press Plan

White House photographer only

### III. TALKING POINTS

1. With respect to the Congressman's desire to enter into the Texas senatorial race, refer to the above section II. Background. 2. In the event the Congressman brings up the busing issue:

Alan, as you probably are aware, I recently met with Senator Tower on the issue of forced busing. During the course of that meeting I assured the Senator that I would instruct the Department of Justice and HEW to seek viable alternatives to resolve this problem.

As President, it is my responsibility to enforce the law and I intend to do so. At the same time, however, my personal viewpoint is that court-ordered busing is a bad remedy to achieve the goal of racial integration. I also believe that busing is counter productive to the achievement of quality education in this country which should be our most important goal.

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As President, it is my responsibility to enforce the law and I intend to do so. At the same time, however, my personal viewpoint is that court-ordered busing is a bad remedy to achieve the goal of racial integration. I also believe that busing is counter productive to the achievement of quality education in this country which should be our most important goal.

WASHINGTON

November 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

TOM LOEFFLER

FROM:

BOBBIE GREENE KILBERG

SUBJECT:

Congressman Steelman's Meeting with the President on November 6

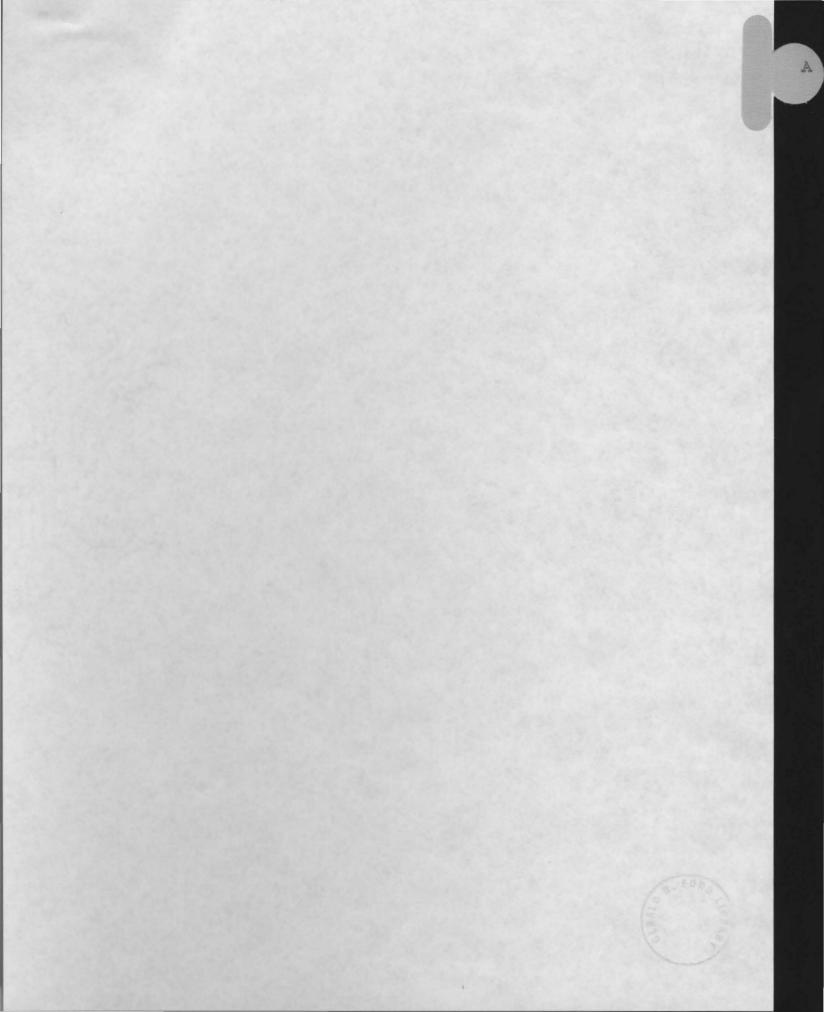
Britis

At the request of your office, I am attaching some material which might be useful to you in relation to the issue of busing in Texas. At Tab A is Max Friedersdorf's summary of the President's meeting with Senator Tower on October 27. Please note that Max states that the President was going to instruct HEW and Justice to seek the development of alternative remedies to busing. HEW and Justice already had begun to do so and it is my understanding that Phil Buchen, as a follow up to the meeting, spoke with the Attorney General about the President's request and that Jim Cannon talked with Secretary Mathews. As you may know, a meeting was scheduled for the President with Secretary Mathews and the Attorney General on November 3 but was <u>not</u> announced and then was cancelled due to the reorganization events of November 2.

At Tab B you will find the talking points which I provided Max for inclusion in his briefing memorandum for the President's meeting with Senator Tower.

At Tab C is a set of talking points which I put together for Phil Buchen on the case of <u>Tasby</u> v. <u>Estes</u>, the Dallas school system desegregation case. The Dallas school board had petitioned for Supreme Court certiorari from a Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals decision. The school board requested certiorari on both the issues of liability and timing and specifically requested the Administration to participate amicus curiae in requesting the Supreme Court to grant certiorari on the issue of timing. The school board contended that the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ignored the provision in the 1974 Esch Amendments which prohibited the imposition of court-ordered plans requiring transportation at mid-year. The board argued that the Fifth Circuit should have ruled on that provision of the Esch Amendments, rather than ignoring it, before ordering mid-term relief. The Justice Department chose on the merits not to intervene at the certiorari stage, and certiorari was denied by the Supreme Court on November 3.

Attachments



WASHINGTON

October 28, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DON RUMSFELD

FROM:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT:

Presidential Meeting with Senator John Tower on Busing

My notes on the President's meeting yesterday with Senator Tower indicate that the President told Mr. Buchen to ask Justice and HEW to review the busing situation with the objective of seeking alternative remedies, to provide equal access on the part of everybody in such a way that everyone has an opportunity for a good education.

He told Mr. Buchen to work with Matthews and Levy to seek a modification of the busing remedy if at all possible through new administrative techniques.

On the question of busing the President said that "busing is not a good remedy to achieve the Constitutional rights of those affected.

The President several times repeated his opposition to busing and indicated that he believes that it is a deterrent to students of both races obtaining a good education.

Senator Tower advised the President that he had introduced a Constitutional Amendment and that hearings are scheduled in the Senate this week.

The Senator did not press the President for a position on a Constitutional Amendment but said that he was advising the President there was considerable support in the Senate for a Constitutional Amendment to relieve the adverse impact of forced busing to achieve racial balance.

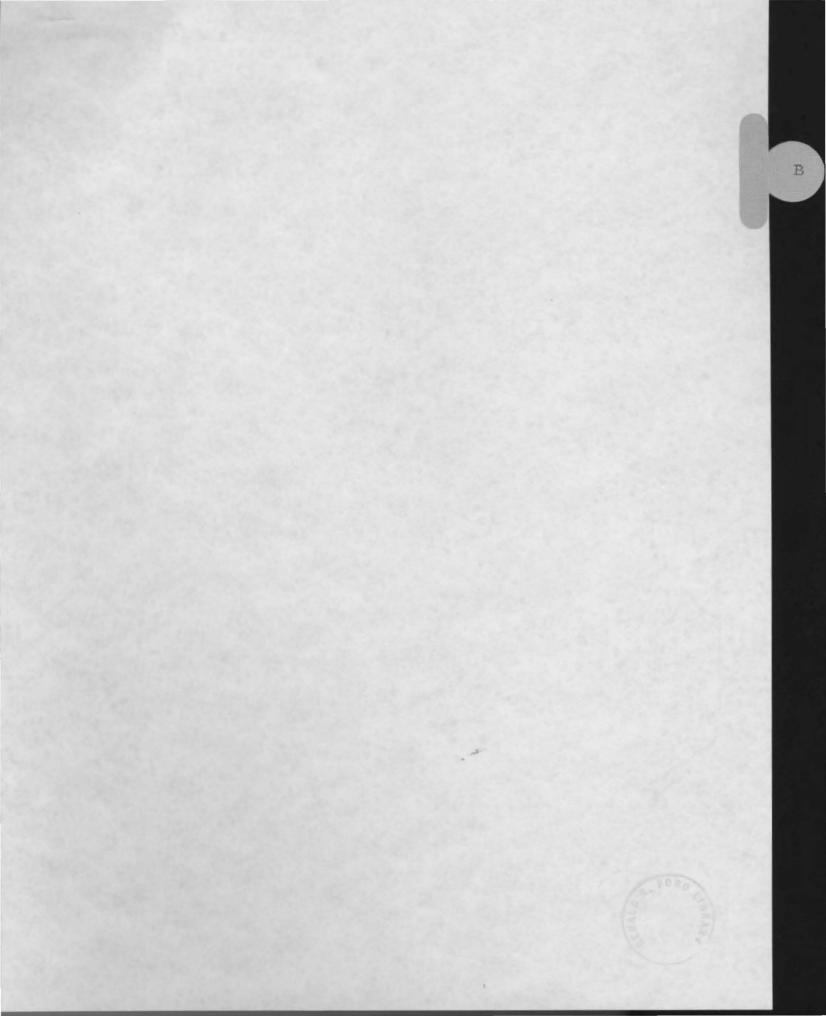
The President indicated that he had not been enthusiastic about a Constitutional Amendment but would not indicate a commitment either for or against a Constitutional Amendment.

Senator Tower was guite specific that the President is not committing himself either way on a Constitutional Amendment and that the chief result of the meeting with the President was the President's instructions for HEW and Justice to seek alternative remedies.

The President also raised the subject and discussed in some detail the column by William Raspberry in the October 27 edition of the WASHINGTON POST which discussed a bill by Congressman Preyer pertaining to busing.

The President and Senator Tower both agreed that this bill reflected some sound thinking and that the President observed that it sounded a great deal like the Esch amendment which the President has supported.

cc: Jack Marsh Philip Buchen Jim Cannon



# TALKING POINTS

1. Senator Tower introduced a joint resolution (S. J. Res. 137) on October 7 (legislative day, September 11), proposing to amend the Constitution to insure the right of students to attend their neighborhood public schools:

"SECTION 1. The right of students to attend the public school nearest to their place of residency shall not be denied or abridged on account of race, religion, sex, or national origin.

"SEC. 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce the provisions of this article by appropriate legislation."

2. On October 28 and 29, the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold hearings on the Tower joint resolution and joint resolutions by Senators Bartlett, Roth and Scott which also propose constitutional amendments prohibiting forced busing.

3. On September 15, in an interview with reporters from the <u>Chicago</u> <u>Sun Times</u>, you stated that you have never advocated a constitutional amendment and that you believed that there had to be more flexibility in the courts. It is our understanding that you did not take a position on a constitutional amendment while either Vice President or Minority Leader.

4. The following points support a position in opposition to a constitutional amendment:

(a) the Constitution is a fundamental document which should not be altered or added to except under the most compelling circumstances which relate to a fundamental right.

(b) a constitutional amendment could have the reverse effect from that desired by its advocates for two reasons:

(1) it could elevate busing from the status of an equitable remedy to a status parallel to a right that only can be altered by an amendment to the Constitution; and (2) during the years that the amendment would be under debate, Congressional vote and ratification or defeat, the legal implication could be left that a constitutional amendment was the only way to reverse forced busing.

(c) a constitutional amendment would disguise the real issue which is that forced busing is an equitable remedy:

(1) the important distinction between rights and remedies should be emphasized. An equitable remedy implies an adjustment and reconsideration of conflicting interests. The problems of affirmative relief in desegregation cases differ from the issue of the fundamental right.

In Brown v. Board of Education II, 349 U.S. 294 (1955), the Court said that: "in fashioning and effectuating the decrees, the courts will be guided by equitable principles. Traditionally, equity has been characterized by a practical flexibility in shaping its remedies and by a facility for adjusting and reconciling public and private needs." 349 U.S. at 300.

(2) in Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education, 402 U.S. 1 (1971), the Supreme Court authorized the use of new transportation to fully desegregate schools. However, the opinion of Chief Justice Burger writing for a unanimous Court recognizes that the cases on desegregation decrees deal essentially with questions of remedies and that the area does not involve a flat constitutional rule. The opinion states that the "task is to correct, by a balancing of the individual and collective interests, the condition that offends the Constitution." 402 U.S. at 11. Bob Bork notes in a 1972 American Enterprise Institute publication that the opinion thus specifically recognizes that busing is a remedy that must be chosen and limited with regard to other values upon which it impinges. However, he also notes that a balancing of conflicting interests does not dispense with the affirmative obligation of school systems to dismantle the de jure segregation they have imposed.

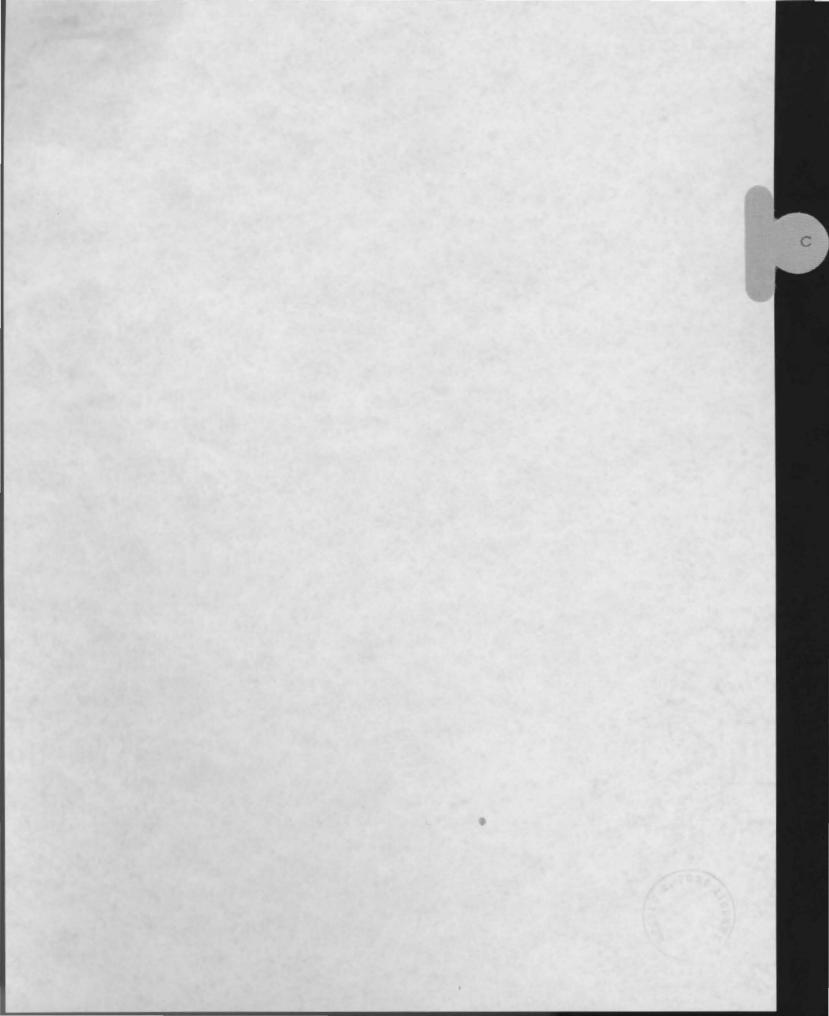
(3) in North Carolina State Board of Education v. Swann, 402 U.S. 43 (1971) [referred to as Swann II], the Supreme Court stated that ". . . bus transportation has long been an integral part of all public educational systems, and it is unlikely that a truly effective remedy could be devised without continued reliance upon it." 402 U.S. at 46. This can be read as holding that some busing is essential to the vindication of the constitutional right. However, at the same time, there could be room for the exercise of judgment and discretion in a fairly wide area in defining the equitable remedies to enforce the affirmative obligation of school systems to desegregate.

(d) If busing is an equitable remedy, then one is justified in looking at whether it is accomplishing its objective:

(1) if the objective is to achieve that level of integration which would have existed but for past discrimination, the questions are: what that level of integration would have been; how one would document that level; and whether forced busing is necessary to achieve that level or whether it hinders its achievement by causing white flight, etc.

(2) if the objective is reaching an educational level that would have existed but for the past discrimination and thus counteracting the present educational effects of past discrimination, the questions are: what are the elements of that desired educational level; how is it measured; and does busing have any positive or negative relationship to attainment of that educational level.

(e) Given the above considerations, it can be argued that we will reach the constitutionally required level of desegregation within a relatively short period of time. Therefore, it would be unproductive and unwise to embark upon the long and time-consuming process of a constitutional amendment to simply eliminate a remedy, when it can be argued in the courts that the legal need for that remedy will be perceptibly lessened over that same period of time.



#### WASHINGTON

# October 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

#### PHIL BUCHEN

FROM:

SUBJECT:

BOBBIE GREENE KILBERG

Talking Points on <u>Tasby</u> v. <u>Estes</u>, Petition for Certiorari from Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals Decision on Desegregation of Dallas School System

- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas decision: August 2, 1971
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit decision: July 23, 1975 (unanimous decision); cited as <u>Tasby</u> v. <u>Estes</u>, 517 F.2d 92 (1975)
- Certiorari petition filed by Dallas Independent School District, No. 75-265

Dallas school board attorneys: Warren Whitham Mark Martin

Attachments (Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals opinion at Tab A)

(1) Central concern is the timing of Justice participation. Stan Pottinger, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, advised the Solicitor General on September 12 that his office did not recommend participation at the certiorari petition stage. The Solicitor General agreed with that recommendation. On September 22, we received a call from the Dallas school board attorneys asking us to consider participation on the issue of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals' apparent failure to address itself to the section of the 1974 Equal Educational Opportunities Act which prohibited the imposition of mid-term busing. We requested that Pottinger's and Bork's offices review the case again and make their own determination on the merits. They did so and reached the same conclusion not to participate at the petition stage. The certiorari petition is scheduled for Supreme Court hearing on October 17.

Amicus curiae participation by the Solicitor General at this point could give the distinct impression of our legal officers being party to a political move rather than to a serious attempt by the Administration to help the Supreme Court resolve a complex legal issue. This is especially so since the request from the Dallas school board attorneys for our intervention comes only after the wide exposure of the issue in the press and its serious politicization. Further, at this point, the Solicitor General would have to ask the Court to delay consideration on the certiorari petition until the parties could respond to our amicus brief.

(2) The Dallas school board did not petition the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals for rehearing on the timing issue in light of passage of the Esch amendments. Nor has it petitioned the District Court to include reference to the Esch amendments in the progress report on desegregation which the Court must file with the Clerk of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals on October 15, 1975.

(3) Mid-term busing relief is a collateral, secondary issue in this case, and there are procedural problems with the Solicitor General urging the Supreme Court to accept certiorari based on this secondary issue. The school board petition is based both on the question of liability and on the question of timing, and it is very unlikely that the Supreme Court, in a major desegregation case in a major city, would limit certiorari to the collateral issue. If certiorari is granted, we could be faced with the problem of having urged the Court to take certiorari and thus being obligated to participate on the merits. This could create a dilemna since Justice participated as an amicus at the Court of Appeals stage in 1972 and argued at that time that further relief was required. However, Justice also asserted in its brief that in devising a remedy the Court should follow the priority of remedies contained in President Nixon's proposed anti-busing legislation, those remedies being reflected in the 1974 Esch amendments.

(4) It could be argued that the timing issue is not ripe for decision because Section 1757(b) of the 1974 Act applies only to departmental, agency or court-ordered plans requiring transportation, and there is no plan in existence yet that requires busing. However, it is almost inevitable that a plan in Dallas which meets the Court of Appeals legal criteria will have to include substantial busing.

(5) If the Supreme Court takes the case, it might rule against midterm relief, but require the implementation of a plan in the fall of 1976. The implementation of a desegregation plan involving substantial busing in September could create even a more volatile and politically explosive atmosphere given the November elections, than implementation of a plan in January.

(6) Though the parties did not argue the matter of the 1974 Act in their Court of Appeals briefs since they were filed in 1971, the Court's specific reference to the Supreme Court decision in <u>Alexander v. Holmes County Board of Education</u> (1969) makes it clear that the question of mid-term relief was analyzed by the Court before it ordered that relief.

(7) The Government has argued in previous cases that mid-term relief was inappropriate and has lost. See <u>Alexander</u> v. <u>Holmes</u> and Carter v. West Feliciana Parish (1970).

(8) In the certiorari petition and response, the petitioners and respondents argued the points on the Esch amendments succinctly and well. There is nothing the Solicitor General could add from a legal standpoint, though he obviously could add the prestige of the U.S. Government to the request to grant certiorari. (9) The issue of whether the Government itself should reactivate the matter of mid-term relief when the Supreme Court had ruled against us is an issue that should be decided in the context of an overall approach to the legal issues involved in desegregation and busing, rather than in a shotgun approach.

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL				
DATE:	October 29, 1975			
THRU:	Max Friedersdorf			
	Vern Loen VL			
FROM:	Tom Loeffler			
VIA:	Bill Nicholson			

MEETING: Rep. Alan Steelman (R. -Texas)

DATE: At earliest opportunity

PURPOSE: Opportunity for Rep. Steelman to inform the President of his anticipated decision to run for the Senate seat from Texas and make a brief presentation of a small model automobile made by Dallas high school students.

FORMAT: Oval Office - 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: The President Rep. Alan Steelman

SPEECH MATERIAL: Talking points will be provided

PRESS COVERAGE: White House photographer only

STAFF: Tom Loeffler

RECOMMEND: Max Friedersdorf

1.

### PREVIOUS

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PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND:

This meeting was scheduled for October 21, but was cancelled due to the President's illness.

2. During the President's recent trip to Dallas, Congressman Steelman mentioned the possibility of his entry into the Texas Senatorial race. Of course, circumstances obviously prevented further discussion. The congressman now wishes to officially inform the President of his intention. Steelman has stated that he will not at this time solicit the President's support for his candidacy.

- 3. In addition, Congressman Steelman wishes to briefly present a small model automobile mounted on a plaque. This model automobile was made by Dallas high school students and given to the Congressman in order that he could present it to the President.
- 4. The Congressman has formally announced his support for President Ford in 1976.

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

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WASHINGTON

approved for 11/6/15

Per June 11/1/75

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Called marvin Collina - 1/3

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WASHINGTON

President did not

meet with Steelman.

President was ill. Will

he rescheduled.

WASHINGTON

October 14, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

TOM LOEFFLER MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Alan Steelman

Tom, on the attached, please contact Steelman personally.

A meeting has been approved for Tuesday, October 21st, at 12:00 noon for 10 minutes.

/Aque

Please do briefing paper on plain bond.

Also-greation of make-shift Model of car - Mounted on RIn.

Ristocol - does not intend to Ask for support - In Tegas have not had Pres. coat - trils - prop. hurt George Sush - Ford Committee in

TO: Produce THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

October 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ROBERT HARTMANN MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM:

SUBJECT:

WARREN RUSTAND

Appointment for Cong. Alan Steelman

We would appreciate having your comments and recommendation on the attached request as soon as possible.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Sectember 22, 1975

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NOTE TO DICK CHENEY

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talked u/ her in

On Friday, Marvin Collins, Cong. Alan Steelman's AA called about the following:

Steelan would like an appointment to see the President for 10 minutes to tell him of his plans for running against Bentsen for the Sanate in Texas next year. Obviously he's not seeking an endorsement but just wants to do it as a courtes, particularly since he'll be running at the top of the Texas ticket nect year with the President. He has dispussed race with Tower, Connally, Bush) Archer, Collins and all appropriate state leaders and now feels the only one fit is the President. Apparently Alar made a perfunctory mention of this to the President at Tranmel Grow's but circumstances obviously prevented fur ther discussion.

I told Collins we'd get back to him about the possibility of this.

H Pete Rould ancy hidy Canbe expected KA craelic John Rhoch has mi intelligent

WASHINGTON

Bablin Kelherg is Werking an its 6246

Will pend us some talking points.

### Dear Dawson:

Thank you for the October 28 letter to the President is which you and six of your colleagues asked that he urge the Congress to enact a Constitutional Amendment which would prohibit forced busing as a means to achieve a racial balance in the nation's public schools.

I was pleased to pass along your letter to the President. I am certain that he and his advisors who have the substantive responsibility in this area will appreciate receiving your evaluation of the problem and will give your request careful consideration.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Losn Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Dawson Mathis House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc w/inc to James Cannon - for further DRAFT reply, along with the ones you already have on the subject. bcc w/inc to Philip Buchen - FYI

VCL:EF:ms

### Dear Walter:

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With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Walter B. Jones House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc w/inc to James Cannon - for further DRAFT reply, along with the ones you already have on the subject. bcc w/inc to Philip Buchen - FYI

VCL:EF:ms

### Dear Mr. Moakley:

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With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Joe Moakley House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

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VCL:EF:ms

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With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen Deputy Assistant to the President

The Monorable Bill Alexander House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

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VCL:EF:ms

### Dear Jim:

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With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable James J. Blanchard House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc w/inc to James Cannon - for further DRAFT reply, along with the ones you already have on the subject. bcc w/inc to Philip Buchen - FYI

VCL:EF:ms

### Dear Jim:

Thank you for the October 28 letter to the President in which you and six of your colleagues asked that he urge the Congress to enact a Constitutional Amendment which would prohibit forced busing as a means to achieve a racial balance in the nation's public schools.

I was pleased to pass along your letter to the President. I am certain that he and his advisors who have the substantive responsibility in this area will appreciate receiving your evaluation of the problem and will give your request careful consideration.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen Deputy Assistant to the President

The Monorable James P. O'Hara House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc w/inc to James Cannon - for further DRAFT reply, along with the ones you already have on the subject. bcc w/inc to Philip Buchen - FYI

VCL:EF:ms

## Dear Alan:

Thank you for the October 28 letter to the President in which you and six of your colleagues asked that he urge the Congress to enact a Constitutional Amendment which would prohibit forced busing as a means to achieve a racial balance in the nation's public schools.

I was pleased to pass along your letter to the President. I am certain that he and his advisors who have the substantive responsibility in this area will appreciate receiving your evaluation of the problem and will give your request careful consideration.

with kind regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Alan Steelman House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc w/inc to James Cannon - for further DRAFT reply, along with the ones you already have on the subject. bcc w/inc to Philip Buchen - FYI

VCL:EF:ms

ALAN STEELMAN STH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEES: GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

Con bure

ME

# Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 437 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-2231

DALLAS OFFICE: 1100 COMMERCE STREET, SUITE 9C60 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 (214) 749-7277

October 28, 1975

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

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to ask for your support and leadership in urging the Congress to enact a Constitutional Amendment that would prohibit forced busing as a means to achieve a racial balance in the nation's public schools.

Busing is a major concern in many parts of the country. Mounting opposition to this concept comes from parents, children, teachers and public officials of all races and political persuasions. The widespread domestic discontent that busing is fomenting cannot be ignored nor dismissed any longer.

It is apparent from all the evidence over several years of experience with court-mandated school busing that it is having exactly the opposite effect from that intended by the courts. It is meant to be a tool for desegregation. Yet in countless cities it is, instead, resegregating the public schools due to the flight to private schools or to other counties. What is left is a highly segregated, inner-city school system, and, perhaps worst of all, no tax base left to buy books, pay teachers, and in general, educate children. Whatever else can be said in terms of inconvenience to parents and children, added costs, needless consumption of energy, etc., the most damning argument against it is that it doesn't work. Yet, in the face of all this, the federal courts continue to mandate busing in city after city.

As Members of Congress, we've grown more and more frustrated with our apparent collective inability to do anything about it. Most of us are convinced that our only sure remedy is a Constitutional Amendment. But, as you know, our efforts to get such an amendment out of the Judiciary Committee have proven futile thus far.

We urge you to send a message to the Congress in the very near future asking for action on a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit forced busing. With your leadership and moral support, Mr. President, our chances of getting such an amendment through the Congress would be significantly enhanced. The Honorable Gerald R. Ford October, 1975 Page Two

Thank you for your careful and thoughtful consideration.

bill la Y Bill Alexander Dawson Mathis embo James J. Blanchard B. Jones Walter Joe Moakley James P. O'Hara elman

## Dear Alan:

Thank you for your letter regarding the two letters that you have co-signed to the President asking for his support and leadership in urging the Congress to enact a Constitutional Amendment that would prohibit forced busing as a means to achieve a racial balance in the nation's public schools.

In checking, I learned that your recent letter of October 28 addressed to the President has been received and passed along for his early attention. I am certain that you will receive a further reply as soon as possible.

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

Thomas G. Looffler Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs

Honorable Alan Steelman House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

TGL:EF/nd

ALAN STEELMAN 5TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEES: GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 437 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-2231

DALLAS OFFICE: 1100 COMMERCE STREET, SUITE 9C60 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 (214) 749-7277

October 28, 1975 OCT 2 9 1975

Mr. Tom Loeffler The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Tom:

As you know, I sent the President a letter urging his endorsement of a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit forced busing, cosigned by 87 of my colleagues in the House. This afternoon, I sent a second copy of that letter with an additional six signatures. (Copies of both letters are enclosed.)

So far the only acknowledgement of this letter came from Vern Loen. If possible, I would appreciate having a reply from the President stating his position on busing, along the lines indicated to Senator Tower in their meeting Monday morning.

Thank you for your help in this.

Best regards.

Sincerel 'STEELMAN

Member of Congress 5th District, Texas

AS:1b Enclosures (2) ALAN STEELMAN

#### no i · · ·

437 CANNON HULLET DEFICE WASHINGTON D.C. 20512 (262) 205-2231

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

1 43 1

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington, D.C. 20315

DALLAS OFFICE 1100 COMMENCE STREET, SUITE 90 DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 (214) 749-7277

October 3, 1975

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

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to ask for your support and leadership in urging the Congress to enact a Constitutional Amendment that would prohibit forced busing as a means to achieve a racial balance in the nation's public schools.

Eusing is a major concern in many parts of the country. Mounting opposition to this concept cores from parents, children, teachers and public officials of all races and political persuasions. The widespread domestic discontent that busing is forenting cannot be ignored nor dismissed any longer.

It is apparent from all the evidence over several years of experience with court-mandated school busing that it is having exactly the opposite effect from that intended by the courts. It is meant to be a tool for deserveration Yet in countless cities it is, instead, reserverating the public schools due to the flight to private schools or to other counties. That is left is a highly segregated, inner-city school system, and, perhaps worst of all, no tax base left to buy books, pay teachers, and in general, educate children. Thatever else can be said in terms of inconvenience to parents and children, added costs, needless consumption of energy, etc., the most darming argument against it is that it doesn't work. Yet, in the face of all this, the federal courts continue to mandate busing in city after city.

As Members of Congress, we've grown more and more frustrated with our apparent collective inability to do anything about it. Most of us are convinced that our only sure remedy is a Constitutional Amendment. But, as you know, our efforts to get such an amendment out of the Judiciary Committee have proven futile thus far.

We unge you to send a message to the Congress in the very near future asking for action on a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit forced busing. With your leadership and moral support, Mr. President, our chances of getting such an amendment through the Congress would be significantly enhanced. The Honorable Gerald R. Ford September, 1975 Page Two

Thank you for your careful and thoughtful consideration. Malan Steel Tohn. oussei Joel Jack emp Bafalis Bill Grad ison Bob Lacomarsino anes Abdnor ill Young I.JAN. 1 · Will Don Young llian hitchurst Dave Treen Suel Lujan Jr. arjorie S. Holt いいこ John Buchanan Robert Daniel Tr. aught Gener 2.7 lor enson Moore 17. Devi aruel John Paul Barmerschnidt ald Clair W. Eurgener 110 Robin Deard 1.0. Eeuman Lou Frer Gene Savd Trent Lot

First Tinn Jr. Shirley : Pettig T.Lan line Feith G. Schelius Denterin -23 Joe "ichade lir Fastings John Y. McCollister Couch Grassley Sul. Char F. Egels. Tob Masten iller. 1777 7. 11:an F. Tala Clauser LL. L Menneth Tolinson, Tin-ness horas N. Icels Brindfiles TeAnyson Guvert 742 9, 224 Taga Frinkley . Delbert Latte Charles/3. Mennett Villian F. Spodling ne lite Rehard Nelly a Usila 2-251". Ante son Contraction F. C. ent Tohn Ashirook Popert G. Stephans Jr. Tert fortson er Daniel "-- los "nortosé

al nr 1125 ·Carroll Hubbard シューニー 1200 1-c Jack Edwards Dale Milford 2. Vienni Ner. ano "azzoli Lucien N. Nedzi ave In an Dave Evans 13 Ronald M. Mottl Bu FIC Tom Bevill 10 ames William H. Natcher anes A. Furke UNI G.V. Yontporerv John Jafran and is had Marilyn Lloyd Amald C LAITY 1º Orroy Sa Goodloe E. James A Paley an 0 Ed Jones 1 Ravid Bow Łn terfi TAK Steve Symas 61 'nn 2 Min Tearue

COMMITTEES. GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

ULM LASSINGLY, LANA

## Congress of the United States

Bouse of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

237 Самион House Office Buil Wathinaton, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-2231

DALLAS OFFICE: 1100 COMMERCE STREET, SUITE & DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 (214) 745-7277

October 28, 1975

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

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to ask for your support and leadership in urging the Congress to enact a Constitutional Amendment that would prohibit forced busing as a means to achieve a racial balance in the nation's public schools.

Busing is a major concern in many parts of the country. Mounting opposition to this concept comes from parents, children, teachers and public officials of all races and political persuasions. The widespread domestic discontent that busing is fomenting cannot be ignored nor dismissed any longer.

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### THIS STATIONERY PRINTED ON PAPER MADE WITH RECYCLED FIBERS

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford October, 1975 Page Two

Thank you for your careful and thoughtful consideration.

bill Bill Alexander Dawson Mathis into hr/a James J. Blanchard B. Jones L ley Joe Moakley James P. O'Hara Alan Steelman

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 17, 1975

## GREET REP. L. A. "SKIP" BAFALIS (R. -FLA.) AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FT. PIERCE JAYCEES

Thursday, November 20, 1975 12:35 p.m. (5 minutes) The Oval Office

Via: Max Friedersdorf From: Tom Loeffler **7.**...

#### I. PURPOSE

Opportunity for Rep. Bafalis to (1) introduce representatives of the Ft. Pierce Jaycees who will present a Bicentennial flag to the President and (2) present to the President a beautiful sculpture on behalf of the Beach Chamber of Commerce.

## II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

### A. Background

- The Bicentennial flag was designed by the Ft. Pierce Jaycees. Its symbolic design will be explained by the Jaycee representatives as depicting various phases in the historical development of the United States of America.
- 2. "The Three Patriots", a copper sculpture donated by artist Cleve Willis, was purchased by the Beach Chamber of Commerce as the kickoff for the Ft. Myers Beach Bicentennial Scholarship Fund. This Bicentennial fund will annually assist college students in meeting the costs of higher education.

The Beach Chamber of Commerce has called upon Rep. Bafalis to present this sculpture to the President in recognition of this country's Bicentennial celebration. B. Participants:

The President Rep. L. A. "Skip" Bafalis Joe Forbes Jack Sewell Martin Csontos Robert Stone Tom Loeffler (staff)

### C. Press Plan

Announce to press White House photographer only

## III. TALKING POINTS

1. I certainly commend the Ft. Pierce Jaycees for this most impressive and imaginative Bicentennial flag.

Your unique imagination as portrayed in the design of this flag is symbolic of the many accomplished visions which have served to make the United States the greatest country in the world.

2. Skip, thank you for presenting this beautiful copper sculpture on behalf of the Beach Chamber of Commerce.

It is most encouraging to observe that our Bicentennial celebration has prompted programs which will serve to continue the many freedoms and strengths of our nation in the future.

This Bicentennial fund which will annually assist college students in meeting the costs of higher education will assure this country strong leadership for tomorrow.

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Cancelled because of Presidents illness.

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL	
DATE:	October 10, 1975
FROM:	Tom Loeffler
THRU:	Max Friedersdorf
	Vern Loen 🕊
VIA:	Warren Rustand
	DATE: FROM: THRU:

**MEETING:** 

Rep. L. A. "Skip" Bafalis (R. -Florida)

DATE:

PURPOSE:

Next Congressional Hour

The Oval Office - 5 minutes

To be provided at a later time.

THE WHITE H

1. Opportunity for Rep. Bafalis to present to the President a Bicentennial copper sculpture entitled "The Three Patriots".

2. Occasion for Rep. Bafalis to introduce to the President representatives of the Ft. Pierce Jaycees who will present a Bicentennial flag.

FORMAT:

SPEECH

**PARTICIPANTS:** 

Talking points to be provided

Tom Loeffler

Max Friedersdorf

PRESS COVERAGE:

MATERIAL:

Announce to press - White House photographer only

STAFF:

**RECOMMEND:** 

**BACKGROUND:** 

L. "The Three Patriots" a copper sculpture donated by artist Cleve Willis, was purchased by the Beach Chamber of Commerce as the kickoff for the Ft. Myers Beach Bicentennial Scholarship Fund. This Bicentennial fund will annually assist college students in meeting the costs of higher education.

The Beach Chamber of Commerce has called upon Rep. Bafalis to present this sculpture to the President in recognition of this country's Bicentennial celebration.

- The Bicentennial flag was designed by the Ft. Pierce Jaycees. Its symbolic design represents various phases in the historical development of the United States of America.
- 3. Congressman Bafalis played a key role in reversing the congressional embargo on military sales to Turkey. Having earlier voted to continue the embargo, Bafalis, of Greek origin, switched his position and actively and successfully assisted the efforts of the President, in achieving congressional relief of the Turkish Aid embargo.

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

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October 14, 1975

TOM LOEFFLER

MEMORANDUM FOR:

WARREN RUSTAND

THRU:

MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF VERN LOEN

FROM:

SUBJECT:

10/10/75 Schedule Proposal Participants

On October 19, I forwarded Congressional Hour Schedule Proposals for Congressmen Skip Bafalis and Bud Brown. When the Schedule Proposals were prepared we did not have the names of the participants available. Attached are the list of participants for each of the proposals.

Attachment

The President Rep. L.A. "Skip" Bafalis Joe Forbes Jack Sewell Martin Csontos Robert Stone Tom Loeffler (staff) The President Rep. Clarence "Bud" Brown James M. Foreman William H. Ray Floyd J. Dugan Rolland S. Wilson Robert J. Benston

Tom Loeffler (staff)

### November 21, 1975

## Dear Skips

Enclosed are the two sets of photographs which were taken during your meeting yesterday with the President during the Congressional Hour.

These photographs are sent to you with the best wishes of the President.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance to you.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Thomas G. Leeffler Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs

Honorable L. A. "Skip" Bafalis House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

## Enclosures

## TGL:nd

5 copies of 20NO75A7381-33A 5 copies of 20NO75A7381-28A



## Art Object

**Is Presented** 

Congressman Skip Bafalis, center, receives "The Three Patriots," a copper sculpture by artist Clive Willis which has been chosen as the kickoff for the Fort Myers Beach Bicentennial Scholarship Fund. The Beach Chamber of Commerce purchased the statue for \$1,000. However, Willis has donated his share to the scholarship fund and his agent in the transaction, Bill Kamerer, has also donated his share to the fund. Buzz Reasoner, president of the Beach Chamber, stands to the left of Bafalis and State Rep. Paul Nuckolls stands to the right. The sculpture will later be presented by Bafalis to President Gerald Ford.

## SEP 24 NOA

### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 22, 1975

Dear Mr. Bafalis:

This is in further response to your letter concerning the Fort Myers Beach Chamber of Commerce sculpture entitled, "The Patriots," which they would like to use as a trophy following a presentation to the President.

While we can appreciate their desire and sincerity, we regret, however, that it is not possible for the President to accept the sculpture. He receives so many requests in connection with similar projects being conducted throughout the nation that he feels it is inappropriate for him to endorse or single out for special recognition the efforts of any one group.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Milton E. Mitter

Deputy Special Assistant

The Honorable L. A. "Skip" Bafalis House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 Sen Sen A.

ent.

### THE WHITE HOUSE

### WASHINGTON

### November 19, 1975

## MEETING WITH SENATOR GRIFFIN AND REPRESENTATIVE VANDER JAGT TO PRESENT A LIVE TURKEY

Thursday, November 20, 1975 1:00 - 1:10 p.m. (10 minutes) The Rose Garden

Thru: Max L. Friedersdorf From: William T. Kendall

### I. PURPOSE

To present the President with a Thanksgiving turkey

### II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS PLAN

- A. Background: The turkey will be presented by the National Turkey Federation as is their custom. A friend and former constituent of the President's, Marvin DeWitt of Zeeland, Michigan will actually make the presentation. This will be the 30th consecutive year that the Federation will be presenting a turkey to the President.
- B. Participants: See Tab A
- C. Press Plan: Press photo and White House photo

### III. TALKING POINTS

1. Bob, Guy, Marv, this is a banner day for Michigan! It is the first time, as I understand it, that the turkey, the presenter and the President have all come from the same state. It's a great turkey and I want to express to you all my gratitude for your coming here today.

## PARTICIPANTS

The President

Senator Griffin

Representative and Mrs. Guy Vander Jagt

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin DeWitt

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Vickrey - President, National Turkey Federation

Mr. and Mrs. Lew Walts - Executive Vice President, National Turkey Fed.

Dr. and Mrs. Howard Zindel - Chairman of the Poultry Science Department of Michigan State University

### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 13, 1975

### MEMORANDUM FOR:

## MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF

WILLIAM T. KENDALL

FROM:

SUBJECT:

A Real Turkey

Senator Griffin talked to me about the attached exchange of correspondence with Mr. DeWitt.

Every year, as you know, the National Turkey Federation presents a turkey to the President (not the kind Doug Bennett serves up). This year the man who will present the turkey happens to be from Michigan and is a former constituent of the President. Naturally, he is anxious to make the presentation and wants the Senator and Congressman Vander Jagt to be there at the big moment.

Scc: Vern Loen--FYI

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

United States Senate

September 8, 1975

Mr. Marvin DeWitt President Bil-Mar Foods, Inc. 8300 96th Avenue Zeeland, Michigan 49464

Dear Marv:

Just a line to acknowledge your letter of August 29 concerning the traditional Thanksgiving Day turkey to be presented to the President.

I believe it is just great that you will be able this year to present the turkey to a President who is your friend and former Congressman.

I have made a contact at the White House in accordance with your request. In addition, we will be in touch with Mr. Walts of the Turkey Federation.

I hope things work out, and I look forward to seeing you in Washington.

I'll drop you another line when I have more details.

With best wishes and warm personal regards,

I am

Sinceré

Robert P. Griffin U/S. Senator

RPC:tb



8300 96TH AVE. PHONE 616 875-9222

ZEELAND, MICHIGAN 49464

August 29, 1975

man se with is friend and fromer constituent of the Besident (when he was Congress. O He will present the traclite ing turked as n monder

The Honorable: Robert P. Griffin United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Griffin:

I am writing to you in regards to wanting you as a contact man to make arrangements with our president, Gerald R. Ford, to present him with a turkey.

This will be the 30th consecutive year that the National Turkey Federation will be giving a turkey to the president but will be the first time the turkey and the man representing the turkey industry is from Michigan, and that the one giving the turkey to the president knows him personally.

We would like to make the presentation around the 20th of November if this is possible.

I would like for you and Congressman Guy Vander Jagt to be there at the presentation also.

F.W. Vickrey, President of the National Turkey Federation, and Lew Walts, Executive Vice President, will also be there at this time. It may be best for your office to work with Mr. Walts as contact man. He has been through this before and knows more of what goes on than I do. His office is in Reston, Virginia, phone: 860-0120. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

lovin Dello

Marvin DeWitt President

MDW:sld

2 minheging

NOV 5 1975

COMMITTEE: WAYS AND MEANS

GUY VANDER JAGT

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

November 4, 1975

Mr. Vernon C. Loen Deputy Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Vern,

Attached are copies of correspondence regarding an appointment with the President for the presentation of the Thanksgiving turkey to the President.

In the most recent letter from the National Turkey Federation they have referred to Congressional Resolutions which have been introduced relative to designating the week in which Thanksgiving falls as 'Family Week.'' Mr. Walts, Executive Vice President of the Federation wrote ''It would certainly add a great deal of luster to the presentation if the President could make comments on this at the time, or perhaps the issuance of a Thanksgiving Proclamation would be appropriate.

Sincerely,

Guy Vander Jagt Member of Congress

GVJ:mlt

### THE WHITE HOUSE

#### WASHINGTON

October 9, 1975

00114 Ist

Dear Guy:

Thank you for the letter to the President from you and Senator Griffin requesting an opportunity for the National Turkey Federation to present a Thanksgiving turkey.

I know the President will be interested in learning that this is a Michigan-grown bird and your letter has been passed along for his early attention. You may be assured every effort will be made to arrange for a presentation.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Guy Vander Jagt House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

0

SULL VADIL

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

September 29, 1975

The President The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

For the past twenty-nine consecutive years, the National Turkey Federation has been honored and privileged to present a turkey to the President of the United States commemorating the rich heritage of our country's original Thanksgiving.

An appointment is requested for the President of the National Turkey Federation to make the presentation before Thanksgiving which falls on November 27. This year the presentation would be unique inasmuch as the turkey would be Michigan-grown provided by our mutual friend Marvin DeWitt, of Bil-Mar Foods in Zeeland, Michigan. Marv is a member of the Executive Committee of the Turkey Federation.

It would be a great honor for Michigan friends to present a Michigan turkey to the President of the United States from Michigan.

We sincerely hope that your busy schedule will provide time to continue the tradition for a thirtieth year.

Sincerely,

3

Robert P. Griffin United States Senator

Guy Vander Jagt Member of Congress

## THỂ WHITE HOUSE

## WASHINGTON

Thanksgiving turkey presentation - Senator Griffin and Rep. V.Jag CONGRESSIONAL HOUR - NOVEMBER 20 - 11:50 to 12:00 - - - - - presentation will take place in ROSE GARDEN

## PARTICIPANTS

Senator Bob Griffin Rep. Guy Vander Jagt Mrs. Carol Vander Jagt Dr. Howard Zindel and wife/ Maude Mr. Marvin DeWitt and wife/Jerine Mr. F.W. Vickery and wife/Lucy Mr. Lew Walts and wife/Frances

Mr. Lew Walts, 860-0120, requested a special tour for the group after presentation. Mr. Walts represents turkey growers and lives in Washington area. He said this had been done in the past after presentations and hoped it could be done this time.

Bobby, Bill Kendall's secretary, has background on this presentation. x2711

Vera 11/17

National Turkey growers Federation