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September 24, 1974

Pardon

Dear Mr. Coates:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 10th concerning the pardon granted to former President Nixon.

I cannot agree that the tranquility of this Nation has been irrevocably lost because of the pardon. On the contrary, I believe that a national "peace of mind" will result sooner because of this action. If President Ford had delayed granting a pardon, he would have prolonged reconciliation among those of our citizens who are so divided.

You have expressed concern that the full story of Watergate will not be told. I am not sure that, in fact, we haven't already learned the whole story. The hearings held by Senator Ervin's committee, the investigation conducted by the House Judiciary Committee and the numerous books which have and continue to be published seemed to have saturated us all with the facts. Even if there were more to learn, I do not believe President Ford could make such disclosure. First, the Special Prosecutor's office is separate and apart from the authority of the Chief Executive. Second, the Federal Courts are presently involved in several cases which might well be prejudiced by disclosure. Third, the documents of the former President belong to him. This latter fact has been established repeatedly in history by every President since George Washington. For President Ford to be oblivious to this historical and legal precedent would be to act capriciously and thereby subject him to the same criticisms directed at his predecessor.



I do sincerely hope in time that you will reconsider your views on this matter as the Nation begins its recovery and rebirth.

Most sincerely yours,

Phillip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Robert C. Coates
Office of the President
Democratic Professional Club
654 India Street, Dock "E"
S. W. Corner, India & "G" Streets
San Diego, California 92101



Democratic Professional Club

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654 India Street, Dock "E"
S.W. Corner, India and "G" Streets
San Diego, California 92101

MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

530 Broadway, Suite 716
San Diego, California 92101

September 10, 1974

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

Re: The Ford/Nixon Pardon


Dear President Ford:

"The tranquility to which this nation has
been restored"... has now been irrevocably lost!"

Sir, you must assist and lead in all steps
to:

- a) Get Mr. Nixon's full testimony into
the public record, either via House
Judiciary or via Mr. Jaworski's offices;
and,
- b) Release all tapes and other documents
relevant to Mr. Nixon's deeds to the
American People, so that the least
they (and their history, and their
view of truth about America) will not
know the full truth about this historic
and so shameful episode.

Respectfully,


ROBERT C. COATES
Attorney at Law

RCC/cbh

cc: Hon. Alan Cranston
Hon. John V. Tunney
Hon. Ted Kennedy, U.S. Senator
Hon. Walter Mondale, U.S. Senator
Hon. Lloyd Bentsen, U.S. Senator
Hon. Henry Jackson, U.S. Senator



September 25, 1974

Pardon

Dear Mr. Simon:

The President has asked me to reply to your letter of September 10, 1974 concerning the pardon he granted former President Nixon.

President Ford's decision was a difficult one and practically speaking, it had to be faced sooner or later. To protract this decision would have only prolonged the division within our country.

I realize you disagree with the President's action. However, as a man who has himself faced many complex business decisions I hope you will appreciate that this one was made, after careful consideration, in the best interests of the nation.

Thank you for your letter.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Norton Simon
3440 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90010



NORTON SIMON

3440 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90010

September 10, 1974

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

Regarding your pardon before appropriate judicial process
I am very sad. It seems like a permanent part of our
democracy has become the misuse and abuse of authority.

Norton Simon

(This is confirmation of telegram sent to the President this date)



and & Garrison, N.Y.C., 1958-62; mem. faculty Yale 1962-63; prof. law, 1967-; Pres. Taconic Found., 1967-; Urban Coalition, 1968-; mem. steering com. Nat. Urban 1968-; mem. Pres.'s Adv. Council for Minority Enterprise, 1964-66; Trustee Pub. Edn. Assn., 1968-; Found. Council on Foundations, 1959-; trustee, sec. Potomac mem. grad. bd. Harvard Crimson, 1950-; Served to 1st 56. Recipient Certificate of Achievement, Dept. Army, 1957; Beta Kappa. Office: Yale Law Sch Yale Univ New 020

KENNETH, educator; b. N.Y.C., Dec. 23, 1935; s. and Marian (Frank) S.; B.A. in French and English, Ph.D. in Comparative Lit., 1963; student U. Paris 14-55, 56-57; m. Jacqueline Chalaire, Sept. 6, 1957; Marc. Asst. instr. French, Yale, 1957-59; instr., 1963; asst. prof. French and English, U. Ill., Urbana, 1963-69; prof. French and comparative lit., French State U. N.Y. at Buffalo, 1969-; French prof. 57, 67; Am. Philos. Soc. grantee, 1964. Home: 217 High tertsville NY 14226

PATRICK, food services exec.; b. Phila., Nov. 9, 1915; m. Vera Cornelia Steiner, Sept. 15, 1956; eph. Walter, Walter Joseph, Leslie Vera, Ernest William, Systems, 1955-59; with ARA Services, Inc., Phila., nal v.p., 1964-66, area v.p., 1966-68, group v.p. and sr. pres. community and school food service div., 1970-71, ternat. operations, 1971-; nat. account rep., nat. coordinator Ford Motor Co. Dist. chmn., Detroit Univ. 7, Nat. Alliance of Businessmen, 1969. Mem. adv. bd. Coll. Served as 1st lt., AUS, 1955-56. Mem. Assn. Food t. (dir.), Cornell Hotel Soc. Mich. (pres.), Zeta Psi. Club: Detroit Athletic. Home: 1109 Hillcrest Rd 19072 Office: Independence Sq W 6th and Walnut Sts PA 19106

WESLEY, JR., assn. exec.; b. New Orleans, Aug. 1908; m. Joseph Wesley and Jeanne (Jaubert) S.; B.A., Tulane U., rothy L. Gaennine, Nov. 4, 1950; children—Diane, Gulf Oil Corp., New Orleans, 1930-63; became dir. and pub. relations New Orleans Area C. of C., 1963, 53-; Mem. exec. com. Met. Crime Comm.; mem. bd. chpt. A.C.C. Mem. New Orleans C. of C. (pres. 1962), y Soc., Cath. Internat. House, Phi Kappa Sigma, es, 1958). Home: 2516 Pine St New Orleans LA 70125 x 30240 New Orleans LA 70125

LINCOLN, educator; b. Newark, Feb. 12, 1932; dechai and Mae (Goodstein) S.; B.A., Harvard, 1953; ngo., 1960, Ph.D., 1961; m. Rita Mintz James, June 25, 1961; David Meyer, Judith Debs, Daniel Hillel, Adm. William Douglas MacAdams, Inc., N.Y.C., 1956; sales T-Davis Pub. Co., N.Y.C., 1957-61; owner Julian Simon r, 1961-63; prof. econs., marketing and adv. U. Ill., 1963-64; Served to lt. (j.g.) USN, 1953-56. First lipson prof. eting Hebrew U., Jerusalem, 1970-71. Mem. Am. Econ. arketing Assn., Population Assn. Am. Jewish religion, to Start and Operate a Mail-Order Business, 1965; Basic hods in Social Science, 1969; (with Herman H. Fussler) es of Books in Large Research Libraries, 1969; Issues in ce of Advertising, The Management of Advertising, 1105 S Bussey Av Urbana IL 61801

GROBSMITH, writer; b. Warsaw, Poland; d. Jacob neiz). Brobsmith; B.A., Hunter Coll., 1935. Former book y Republic, Nation, Book of Month Club; Freelance nopf Co., 1952-55. Member Authors League. Author: acies and Pleasures, rev. edit., 1964; Mexico Places and 12; (with Andreas Feininger) New York, 1964; Italy; The een. Kate Simon's Paris: Places and Pleasures; London: leasures. Contr. articles to Vogue, Harpers, Harpers Rev., Holiday, others. Address: 3 E 82d St New York 28

MICHAEL, surgeon; b. Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Sept. 1925; m. Goldie (Katz) S.; B.S., Union Coll., 1921; M.D., 1925; m. Zerline Lehman, Nov. 18, 1928 (dec. 1962); orgene (Mrs. Irving Dreishood), Babette (Mrs. 1). Frednica (Mrs. Jack Goodman). Mem. house staff n Diseases, N.Y.C., 1925-26; house surgeon Lebanon 1926-28; jr. surgeon St. Francis Hosp., Poughkeepsie, 28. sr. surgeon, 1932-38; chief of staff, 1938-39, sr. geon, 1939-; mem. med. bd.; cons. surgeon Highland an State Hosp., Harlem Valley-State Hosp., Wingdale, 1939-; Pres. Vassar Temple, Poughkeepsie, 1939-41; Served S. Army, 1917-18; commd. 1st Lt. Med. O.R.C., 1925. ternat. Bd. Surgery, 1952. Fellow A.C.S. (internat. bd.), Internat. Coll. Surgeons (pres. Hudson Valley Guild regent, 1954; essayist, panelist on gouter surgery various N.Y. surg. sect. 1956; mem. credentials and adv. bd., ish Physicians Com. (nat. dir.), Roman Coll. Surgeons d Coll. Surgeons (hon.), Miss. Valley Med. Soc. (hon.), . N.Y. State, Dutchess County med. socs., Am. Legion, u Delta Epsilon, Reformed Hebrew, Mason, Elk: Club Country. Author sects. in books: Simon Triangle for

Phil Silver Arrow Show, 1958, The Tallulah Bankhead Show, 1951, The Sid Caesar Show, 1956-57, Phil Silvers Show, 1958-59, Garry Moore Show, 1959-60, also NBC specials. Served to cpl. USAAF, 1945-46. Recipient Emmy award nominations for Sid Caesar Show, 1956-57, Phil Silvers Show, 1958-59; Tony award nominations for Little Me, 1963, Barefoot in the Park, 1963; Sam S. Shubert award, 1968. Mem. Dramatists Guild. Home: 91 Central Park West New York City NY 10023 Office: 225 E 57th St New York City NY 10022

NORMAN ANDERSON, banker; b. New Orleans, Jan. 30, 1922; s. John Meron and Wilhelmina (Dugue) S.; B.Sc., Roosevelt U., 1953; diploma Grad. Sch. Banking, U. Wis., 1967; m. Leonette Mayronne, June 18, 1947; children—Lenore Andrea, Jeffrey Bernard, Sandra Marie, Teller, Main State Bank, 1953-54; sales rep. Remington Rand Inc., 1955-57; asst. v.p. Exchange Nat. Bank, 1957-67; pres. Guaranty Bank and Trust Co., 1967, Univ. Nat. Bank, Chgo., 1967-70. Pub. mem. Ill. Legislative Comm. on Low Income Housing, sec. treas. Cook County (Ill.) Poverty Bd.; mem. Chgo. Mayor's Comm. Human Relations. Bd. dirs. Sr. Citizens of Met. Chgo., Roosevelt U. Alumni Assn. Served in World War II. Recipient Cosmopolitan Chamber of Merit award, 1967. Mem. Toastmasters Internat., Beta Gamma Sigma, Roman Catholic. Home: 16549 Dixie Hwy Markham IL 60426

NORTON, business exec.; b. Portland, Ore., Feb. 5, 1907; s. Myer Simon; ed. Lowell High Sch., San Francisco; m. Lucille Ellis, Feb. 3, 1933; children—Donald Ellis, Robert Ellis. With Steel Products, Los Angeles, 1927-33; with Val Vita Food Products, Inc., Fullerton, Cal., pres., 1931-43; pres. Hunt Bros. Packing Co., San Francisco, 1943-44; chmn. bd. Norton Simon, Inc. (formerly Hunt Foods and Industries, Inc.), 1944-60, pres., 1960-64, dir., chmn. finance com., 1964-70; dir. Burlington No., Inc. Mem. Carnegie Comm. on Future Higher Edn. Mem. bd. mus. assos. Los Angeles County Mus. Art; pres. Hunt Foods and Industries Found., Norton Simon Found.; pres., trustee Hunt Foods and Industries Mus. Art; trustee Reed Coll., Internat. Inst. Edn., Inst. for Advanced Study. Office: 3440 Wilshire Blvd Los Angeles CA 90005

PAUL, singer, mem. team Simon and Garfunkel; recordings include: The Sounds of Silence, Dangling Conversation, Homeward Bound, I Am a Rock, 7 O'Clock News, Silent Night, Recipient 3 Grammy awards, 1970. Address: care Columbia Recording Co 51 W 52d St New York City NY 10019

PAUL, lt. gov. Ill., author; b. Eugene, Ore., Nov. 29, 1928; s. Martin Paul and Ruth (Troemer) S.; student U. Ore., 1945-46; student Dana Coll., Blair, Neb., 1946-48, LL.D., 1965; D.Litt., McKendree Coll. (Ill.), 1965; D.C.L., Greenville (Ill.) Coll., 1968; LL.D., Concordia (Neb.) Coll., 1968, Lincoln (Ill.) Coll., 1969, Loyola U., Chgo., 1969; m. Jeanne Hurley, Apr. 21, 1960; children—Sheila, Martin, Troy (Ill.) Tribune, 1948-66; mem. Ill. Ho. of Reps., 1954-62, Ill. Senate, 1962-69; lt. gov. Ill., 1969-; Bd. dirs. Wheatridge Found., McKendree Coll. Served with CIC, AUS, 1951-53. Recipient Am. Polit. Sci. Assn. award, 1957; named Best Legislator 7 times. Mem. Luth. Human Relations Assn., Am. Legion, V.F.W., N.A.A.A.C.P., Urban League, Sigma Delta Chi, Lutheran, Lion. Author: Lovejoy: Martyr to Freedom, 1964; Lincoln's Preparation for Greatness, 1966; A Hungry World, 1966; (with Jeanne Hurley Simon) Protestant-Catholic Marriages Can Succeed, 1967; You Want to Change the World? So Change It!, 1971. Contr. articles to periodicals, including Sat. Rev., Harper's. Home: 306 E Market St Troy IL 62294 Office: 305 E Clay St Troy IL 62294

RALPH, clergyman; b. Newark, Oct. 19, 1906; s. Isaac and Yetta (Biddleman) S.; B.A., Coll. City N.Y., 1927; m. in Hebrew Lit., Jewish Theol. Sem., 1931; M.A., Columbia, 1943; postgrad. Oriental Inst. U. Chgo., 1944-47; D.D., Jewish Theol. Sem., 1964; m. Kelsey Hoffer, June 30, 1931; children—Matthew, Tamar (Mrs. Tamar Hoffs), Jonathan Carmi, Rabbi, 1931; rabbi Congregation Rodef Shalom, Johnstown, Pa., 1931-36, Jewish Center, Jackson Heights, N.Y., 1937-43, Congregation Rodfei Zedek, Chgo., 1943-; dir. Jewish Fedn. Met. Chgo., 1949-61; founder Camp Ramah, Conover, Wis., 1947. Pres. Chgo. Bd. Rabbis, 1952-54, Chgo. Council Rabbinical Assembly, 1943-45, Council Hyde Park and Kenwood Churches and Synagogues, 1956; mem. Ill. Bd. Mental Health Commrs, 1957-67; mem. Chgo. Comm. on Human Resources, 1958-71; v.p. Rabbinical Assembly Am., 1966-67, pres., 1968-69; v.p. Bur. for Careers in Jewish Ser., 1969-70. Jewish Theol. Sem. created professorship, Ralph Simon chair in Jewish Ethics and Mysticism, 1959. Clubs: Covenant, Standard, Idlewild Country (Chgo.). Home: 5000 East End Av Chicago IL 60615 Office: 5200 Hyde Park Blvd Chicago IL 60615

RITA JAMES (Mrs. Julian Simon), educator; b. Bklyn., Nov. 26, 1931; d. Abraham and Irene (Waldman) Mintz; B.A., U. Wis., 1952; Ph.D., U. Chgo., 1957; m. Julian Simon, June 25, 1961; children—David Meyer, Judith Debs, Daniel Hillel. Research asso. Law Sch., U. Chgo., 1957-61; asst. prof. sociology dept., 1959-61; research asso. Columbia, 1961-63; prof. sociology U. Ill. at Urbana, 1963-; head dept. sociology, 1968-; research prof. communications, 1963-; Guggenheim fellow, 1966-67; Ford Found. fellow, 1970-71. Mem. Am. Sociol. Assn. Soc. Study Social Problems. Jewish religion. Author: The American Jury: The Plea of Insanity, 1966. Editor: As We Saw the Thirties, 1967. The Sociology of Law, 1968. Home: 1105 S Bussey St Urbana IL 61801

SEYMOUR F., lawyer; b. Chgo., Aug. 10, 1915; s. Ben and

Watch Co., Flushing, N.Y., 1943-58, v.p., 1950-58, dir., 1955-; sr. partner Stanley Simon and Assos., 1958-; dir. Williamhouse-Regency, Inc., Swedlow, Inc., Gerber Sci. Instrument Co., Wetterau Foods, Inc., Vornado, Inc., Lewis Bus. Forms, Nat. Shoes, Inc. Home: 44 E 67th St New York City NY 10021 Office: 70 Pine St New York City NY 10005

TODD, newspaperman, Editorial writer Cleve. Plain Dealer. Office: 1801 Superior Av Cleveland OH 44114

WEBSTER GODMAN, ret. univ. dean; b. Cin., Oct. 3, 1892; s. Jacob Weber and Fanny (Godman) S.; A.B., Harvard, 1914, A.M., 1915; Ph.D., U. of Chicago, 1918; student U. Cambridge (Eng.), spring 1932; LL.D., Marietta Coll., 1952; m. Agnes Warren, June 22, 1916; 1 dau., Frances Grace. Instr. in math. Harvard, 1915-16; with Western Res. U., 1918-; instr. in math., 1918-20, asst. prof., 1920-24, asso. prof., 1924-26, prof., 1926-61, dean faculties arts and scis., 1936-61, v.p., 1940-61, v.p., dean, prof. emeritus, 1961-; Mem. library bd., Shaker Heights, 1945-59; trustee Shaker Heights Hist. Soc., 1948-59; treas. Cuyahoga Council League Nursing, 1962-66. Trustee Cuyahoga County Community Coll., 1962-69. Fellow A.A.A.S.; mem. Am. Math. Soc., Math. Assn. Am., Nat. Council Tchrs. Maths., Am. Assn. U. Profs., Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, Methodist (trustee). Contr. to journals. Home: 19101 Van Aken Blvd Shaker Heights Cleveland OH 44122

WERNER, psychiatrist, educator; b. Bremen, Germany, June 5, 1914; s. Louis and Elise (Halle) S.; student U. Frankfurt (Germany), 1932-36; M.D., U. Berne (Switzerland), 1937; m. Elizabeth Sirawn, Apr. 24, 1939. Came to U.S., 1937, naturalized, 1941. Intern. Lutheran Hosp., Omaha, 1937-38, resident psychiatry, 1938-39; resident physician Cherokee State Hosp., Cherokee, Ia., 1939-41; psychiatrist Vets. Hosps., Palo Alto, Cal., American Lake, Wash., 1941-44, VA Hosp., St. Cloud, Minn., 1946-48; chief psychiatry VA Hosp., Mpls., 1948-; prof. psychiatry U. Minn. Med. Sch., Mpls., 1956-; Cons. Hastings (Minn.) State Hosp., 1960-; Served to capt., M.C., AUS, 1944-46. Fellow Am. Psychiat. Assn., A.C.P.; mem. Minn. Psychiat. Soc. (pres. 1967-69), Minn. Soc. Neurol. Scis. Club: Evergreen (Mpls.). Author: (with Dr. R.D. Wirt) Differential Treatment and Prognosis in Schizophrenia, 1959; also articles on schizophrenia, suicide, drug addiction, music therapy. Home: 8915 River Ridge Rd Minneapolis MN 55420 Office: VA Hosp Minneapolis MN 55417

WILLIAM, lawyer; b. Chgo., July 23, 1912; s. Herman and Ida (Kruger) S.; student Crane Coll. Chgo., 1932; LL.B., Chgo.-Kent Coll. Law, 1935; m. Kathleen A. Hackett, May 1, 1941; children—William Hackett, Ann Kathleen. Admitted to Ill. bar, 1935, D.C. bar, 1953; gen. counsel trade policies subcom. U.S. Senate Interstate and Fgn. Commerce Com., 1948-49, Petroleum Adminstr. Def., 1952-53, FHA investigation U.S. Senate Banking and Currency Com., 1954; partner firm Howrey, Simon, Baker & Murchison, Washington, 1956-; Fellow Am. Coll. Trial Lawyers; mem. Am. Bar Assn. (chmn. anti-trust sect. 1955-56). Home: 2510 Virginia Av NW Washington DC Office: 1707 H St NW Washington DC 20006

WILLIAM JOHN, dental educator; b. Mpls., June 12, 1911; s. Jay Alois and Grace Julia (Funk) S.; A.B., U. Minn., 1935, D.D.S., 1936, M.S.D., 1940; m. Lela Belle Tarter, Feb. 26, 1933; children—Elizabeth Grace, Jay Daniel. Dental intern U. Minn., 1936-37, instr., 1937-39, asst. prof., 1939-41, asso. prof., 1941-43, prof., chmn. div. oral diagnosis, 1945-48, prof., chmn. div. operative dentistry, 1948-53; dean, prof. operative dentistry Coll. Dentistry, State U. Ia., 1953-61; practice dentistry, Mpls., part time, 1956-43; dental dir. mem. nat. adv. council dental research USPHS, 1959-62, dir. clin. devel., 1962-70; prof. dentistry U. Louisville Sch. Dentistry, 1970-; Served as 1st Lt. Dental Corps, AUS, 1943-45. Diplomate Am. Bd. Oral Medicine, Fellow Am. Coll. Dentistry, Internat. Coll. Dentists; mem. Am. Dental Assn., Internat. Assn. Dental Research, Minn. Acad. Sci., Am. Acad. Oral Roentgenology, A.A.A.S., Minn. Dental Found., Nat. Sojourners, Heroes of 76 (past comdr.), Sigma Xi, Omicron Kappa Upsilon, Alpha Sigma Epsilon, Psi Omega, Methodist, Mason, Rotarian. Co-author: Clinical Operative Dentistry, 1948; Review of Dentistry, 1949. Contr. prof. journals. Home: Trinity Towers Louisville, KY 40202.

ALBERT R., banker; b. Charleston, S.C., Apr. 20, 1912; s. Louis D. and Mary (Rhett) S.; A.B., U. N.C., 1934; grad. study Harvard, 1934-35; m. Frances Lamar, Oct. 20, 1941; 1 son, Albert R. Clk., Equitable Trust Co., Balt., 1936; investment statistician R.S. Dickson & Co., Charlotte, N.C., 1937; asst. trustee officer Citizens & So. Nat. Bank, 1938-40, asst. v.p., 1947-50, v.p., then exec. v.p., 1948-; exec. v.p. charge Charleston office, now first v.p. dir.; pres. Central R.R. S.C.; dir. Palmetto State Life Ins. Co., Citizens & So. Corp., Carolina Nat. Marketing Co. Mem. exec. council local Boy Scouts Am. Served from ensign to lt. comdr., USNR, 1941-45. Mem. Robert Morris Asso. Home: 18 Lamboll St Charleston SC 29401 Office: Citizens & So Nat Bank Broad St Charleston SC 29402

GEORGE PATTON, educator, architect; b. Chattanooga, Apr. 1, 1905; s. Royal Ambrose and Angus (Patton) S.; A.B., U. Cal. at Berkeley, 1927, M.A., 1928; m. Edith Merle Strickland, Aug. 3, 1931; children—Jean Alden, Robert Lynn. Ann Patton. Practice architecture, Hayward, Cal., 1932-38; designer Anglo. Architects, Oakland, Cal., 1938; with U.S. Pub. Housing Authority, 1939-45, acting asst. dir. devel. region X, 1945; gen. partner firm

September 25, 1974

Pardon
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Dear Mr. Florian:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 13, 1974 presenting your views and thoughts on several matters of interest to all Americans.

I am pleased that you agree with President Ford's decision to pardon the former President. It was a very hard decision, but one I believe, made in the best interests of our nation.

The other comments which you have are very worthwhile. Please be assured they will be given every consideration.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Emery Florian
Apartment 4A
153 Meadow Lane
New Rochelle, New York 10805



FLORIAN AND ASSOCIATES

U. S. A. TAX CONSULTANTS - BUSINESS CONSULTING - EXECUTIVE SEARCHES

EUROPE OFFICE
P. O. BOX 122
CH-8302 KLOTEN-ZURICH
SWITZERLAND

U. S. A. OFFICE
276 FIFTH AVENUE
ROOM 1008
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10001

September 13, 1974

Mr. Jay F. French, Atty.
Office of the Council to the President
The White House

Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. French:

Reference is made to our recent telephone conversation and as I promised I am rushing out just an "outline" of my thoughts, which may be used by President Ford.

I have to appologize for the form of letter, the old typewriter, - but as I explained it to you on the phone, I am home sick for the past seven days and was unable to go into my Fifth Avenue office and dictate a decent letter where you dont have mistakes in. As you probably know I had an open heart surgery more than two years ago and the aftereffects are bothering me at the present. Anyway you may take whatever you find valuable from my letter.

In a speech to the nation or to the press conference, I believe some of my ideas could be used:

The pardon was granted by me, stricktly because I belive that the entire Watergate affair should be finally closed.

The pardon was granted because I felt, that the American people owes that much Mr. Nixon regardless if he made some mistakes or not.

We should not forget that Mr, Nixon probably saved ten thousands of American life by bringing back our boys from Vietnam.

Mr. Nixon saved further possible casualties and war in the Far East which would of involved us certainly due to our commitments.

Mr. Nixon great progress with the Russians opened up the door to a peaceful coexistence with the Sovjet. The same was achieved by Red China as you know.

Mr. Nixon had a very great part in arranging finally connections with the Arab countries and many European countries which are behind the Iron Curtain.

If you think just about the above facts you may realize that with his achievements he did well for our ~~xxx~~ country in the field of foreign policy. (Great credit is due here to Dr. Kissinger naturally).

./.

FLORIAN AND ASSOCIATES

U. S. A. TAX CONSULTANTS - BUSINESS CONSULTING - EXECUTIVE SEARCHES

EUROPE OFFICE
P. O. BOX 122
CH-8302 KLOTEN-ZURICH
SWITZERLAND

U. S. A. OFFICE
276 FIFTH AVENUE
ROOM 1008
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10001

- 2 -

We are all human beings, we all make mistakes and probably Mr. Nixon was also one of it. He "may made some mistakes" which could be considered criminal acts and are punishable. But just like a murder can obtain a pardon in the last minute before he goes on the electric chair, a President of the United States can get that pardon also.

Personally I feel (Mr. Ford) that Mr. Nixon and his Family went through more than any punishment during the past six months and on the top of it he resigned from the Presidency. I personally feel that his present health condition can not take any more punishment under no circumstances. A mistake, a possible crime, does not mean that we have to destroy the person systematically, mainly if we know about his condition.

I believe the time is here when the American People, the Congress, the Senate and every single person should finally concentrate helping to fight the spreading inflation and not waste their time and effort to find every day some new charges and new forms of punishments.

I feel that the T.V., the News Media, The Congress, the Senate should get together to fight the inflation, crime, unemployment and many more important matters.

Every free minute on the T.V. every free space in the newspapers, every special committees in the House and Senate should concentrate on the above. I believe we will much more benefit if we stop the inflation, if we can stop unemployment, high prices etc etc. instead of concentrating for the next two or three years on the trials against Mr. Nixon.

I am sure that every individual has already enough from the entire Watergate history and if we look back a little we will find some interesting things:

Remember that several years ago Senator Kennedy had an unfortunate auto accident and he was released from any charges mainly due to his reputation due to his Family who did so much for our country and died in their fight. That time it was no Special Judiciary Committee set up to investigate the matter eventhough a persons life was involved - but I fully agreed with that procedure.

Remember Mr. O'Dwyer and couple of the other politicians wrong doings which also involved possible crime and you will realize that the cases were not blown up as the Watergate case.

Remember the President of West Germany, Mr. Willy Brand who had a spy in his cabinet. He resigned and the case was closed. They realized if they would of dragged the case further, the nations reputation would of suffered.

./ / .

FLORIAN AND ASSOCIATES

U. S. A. TAX CONSULTANTS - BUSINESS CONSULTING - EXECUTIVE SEARCHES

EUROPE OFFICE
P. O. BOX 122
CH-8302 KLOTEN-ZURICH
SWITZERLAND

U. S. A. OFFICE
276 FIFTH AVENUE
ROOM 1008
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10001

- 3 -

We should always remember that we have allies all over the world and how they feel about Watergate???? The reputation of the USA lost a lot in Europe. Europe and the other countries on the world considered Mr. Nixon, stepping down from Presidency was a smart move and served the best interest of the United States. We can not go only by the polls which are taken in the United States, we have take in consideration the polls taken outside the United States.....

It is true that we make our living alone, ~~we~~ but we also depend sometimes on our allies as they depend of us.

I would more than appreciate if everyone would sleep one night on my opinion and I am sure that you will realize that the number one enemy is not Mr. Nixon, but the inflation.

Finally you should keep in your mind also that I, as the President of the United States, has feelings also, and my feelings and belief in God dictated me to pardon Mr. Nixon.

That is about the rough draft of my thoughts and maybe some of it can be used by Mr. Ford. I wish him a lot of luck in every respect, I hope he can get out of this mess and concentrate on things which are more important than Watergate.

Dear Mr. French, it was a pleasure talking to you and if I am in Washington I may call you and we can have a lunch or dinner together.

With my kindest regards and once more excuse me for the form of letter.

Sincerely yours,


Emery Florian

P.S. My private home address is: 153 Meadow Lane, Apt. 4 A. New Rochelle, New York, 10805. Tel (914) 576-1811



September 25, 1974

Pardon

Dear Mr. Bergersen:

Thank you very much for a copy of your letter to Time magazine. I'll pass your comments on to the President; I know he'll appreciate them.

Your opinion that the President did the honorable thing by pardoning Mr. Nixon is greatly appreciated. Whatever the reason one thing is certain; the President acted by himself on behalf of all the people to end the continued division among our citizens.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchan
Counsel to the President

Mr. Norman E. Bergersen
219 North Washington Street
Lowell, Michigan 49331



*Mr. Buchen this was sent
to Time Magazine - I am an old friend of the
President*

The Forum
TIME Magazine

On the subject of equal justice, yesterday I heard a Michigan candidate for a judgeship discussing the laxity of the punishment for crime. He said that only 1% of all persons committing crimes landed in jail. After he completed his speech, I asked the question: "How does it happen that in the Watergate cases every defendant except two was sent to prison, although in each case it was a first offense?" He said that during the week of the Watergate break-in there were probably several hundred crimes committed in Washington but that it was his opinion that probably not one first offender was sent to jail. He said the only explanation could be the politics involved. I then asked, "What is meant by equal justice under the law?"

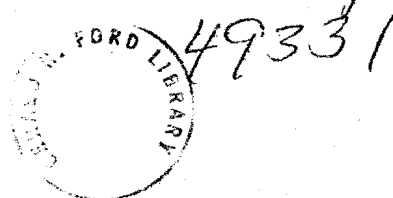
I have not talked to the President since the "pardon", although I have watched his actions closely since he became a Congressman and I do not believe there has ever been a misdeed on his part. Now I ask the question: Is it possible that since it was his intention to pardon Mr. Nixon eventually that the honest and honorable thing was to do it now?

NORMAN E. BORGERSON
Former Michigan Deputy Superintendent
of Public Instruction

219 N. Wash St

P. S. A TIME subscriber for 40-plus years

Rowell Michigan



September 26, 1974

Dear Mayor Thompson:

Thank you very much for your telegram of September 22, 1974, concerning the pardon of former President Nixon.

The President appreciates your telegram and its suggestions.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

The Honorable Ronnie Thompson
Mayor
Macon, Georgia



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western union

Mailgram



PE
PRESIDENT GERALD FORD
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC 20500

IN VIEW OF THE RECENT RASH OF PARDONS AND AMNESTIES THAT YOU HAVE GRANTED TO VARIOUS QUESTIONABLE CHARACTERS FOR CRIMES IMAGINED OR CRIMES COMMITTED I RESPECTFULLY SUGGEST THAT YOU MAKE THE ULTIMATE GESTURE OF BIPARTISANSHIP AND GRANT A TOTAL PARDON TO SENATOR TEDDY KENNEDY FOR ANY CONCEIVABLE FELONIES OR MISDEMEANORS HE MAY HAVE COMMITTED PRIOR TO CHAPPAQUIDICK OR IN THE POST CHAPPAQUIDICK PERIOD. TO THE PRESENT TIME THIS ACTION ON YOUR PART WOULD BE THE ULTIMATE GESTURE OF POLITICAL HUMANENESS IT WOULD ALSO ALLOW TEDDY KENNEDY TO BE CLEANSED AT LAST OF THE TAINT OF CHAPPAQUIDICK AND THEREBY BECOME UNQUESTIONED HEAD OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY WITH TEDDY KENNEDY AS THE DEMOCRATIC STANDARD BEARER IN THE 1976 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN THE ELECTION OF A REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT FOR 4 MORE YEARS WOULD THUS BE ASSURED

RONNIE THOMPSON MAYOR CITY OF MACON GEORGIA

22:54 EDT

MGMWSHT HSB



September 25, 1974

Pardon

Dear Henrik:

Thank you very much for your letter and your concurrence in the President's pardon of the former President.

On the other points raised, I would like to refer a copy of your letter to an appropriate official. However, I think it would be helpful if you could give me first a brief summary of the current issues on which you are seeking views.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Henrik E. Stafseth
Executive Director
American Association of State Highway
and Transportation Officials
341 National Press Building
Washington, D.C. 20004



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY
AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS

PRESIDENT

George H. Andrews, Director of Highways
Washington Department of Highways
Highway Administration Building
Olympia, Washington 98504

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Henrik E. Stalseth
341 Nat'l Press Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20004
Telephone 628-2433

PERSONAL

September 16, 1974

Mr. Philip Buchen
Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Phil:

Congratulations on being given Cabinet rank! You are most deserving of receiving this honor.

It is unfortunate that the President is having difficulty over the Nixon pardon. The President's decision to spare the country the agony of trying a President was certainly an excellent one.

Because of my past acquaintanceship with the President, I have some feel for his views on transportation, however, now his views have to be nationwide in scope. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials is very interested if President Ford's views on transportation have changed substantially. If you could give me some guidance as to how I could best assess the President's position, it would be most helpful. A meeting with the President would be most desirable. If this is a possibility, could you advise me if you could arrange such a meeting. If not, who would be the appropriate person to talk to. If there should be some other course of action, it would be most helpful if you would advise.

President Andrews, of our organization, has been invited to appear for AASHTO at the Presidential Economic Summit Meeting, and we are most appreciative of this recognition. Please convey our thanks to the President and Bill Seidman.



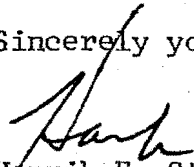
Mr. Philip Buchen
Page 2.

September 16, 1974

Our Association is having its 60th Annual Meeting in Detroit, Michigan, beginning November 18th. For your information, we have sent an invitation to President Ford to address this meeting. We have an Opening General Session that generally runs 1200 people in attendance.

Inasmuch as the President has demonstrated an interest in highways in the past, and it is his Home State, it just could be that these ingredients might be suited to the President's desire for an appearance in Michigan.

Sincerely yours,



Henrik E. Stafseth
Executive Director

September 25, 1974

Pardon

Dear Mrs. Earnest:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 11th enclosing a news clipping concerning the pardon of former President Nixon. I appreciate your concern about this matter. Let me assure you that the granting of a pardon is not a bargain but rather an act of mercy by the President given on behalf of all Americans.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mrs. H. H. Earnest
2616 Crouchward Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72207



Mr. Buchen,

Why does a criminal have
to be bargained with? Is this
setting a precedent ???

Nixon Adamant, But Pardon Seen As Guilty Plea

From Gazette Press Services

WASHINGTON — President Ford and Philip W. Buchen, his White House counsel, believe former President Richard M. Nixon's acceptance of a pardon was an admission he is guilty in the Watergate case and probably would have been convicted.

Nevertheless, Buchen Tuesday disclosed Nixon had told his own attorney that he would never plead guilty. Rather than drag out a case against Nixon for a year or more Mr. Ford ordered Buchen to draw up and offer a pardon with no conditions.

As a result, Buchen said, there were no negotiations with Nixon over a statement "because we were not in a position to bargain." Instead, Buchen relied on Herbert J. Miller, Nixon's attorney, to get a statement of contrition from the former president.

Buchen expanded on details of the pardon process for reporters as part of a White House effort to justify Mr. Ford's unexpected announcement Sunday and calm the controversy it aroused.

No Deal Made, Buchen Says

Buchen rejected speculation that the pardon resulted from a deal that was sealed before Nixon resigned August 9 after releasing documents revealing his complicity in the Watergate coverup. "I can assure you the president did not make a deal with Nixon for a pardon," he said. "I know him that well."

Buchen said Mr. Ford decided to act when he realized Nixon was going "to walk the plank" — meaning he was going to be indicted in the Watergate cover-up — and after Miller informed the White House Nixon "would never enter a plea of guilty."

In an effort to show that Watergate special prosecutor Leon



—AP Wirephoto
PHILIP W. BUCHEN

A. Jaworski had no new bombshells of evidence against Nixon, Buchen released a list of 10 non-Watergate matters involving Nixon that had been under investigation by Jaworski's office.

The list, which contained no surprises, included allegations involving Nixon in illegal tax de-

(See PARDON on Page 2A.)

Clipping from Arkansas
Gazette, Little Rock of
Sept 11

Me 26 Lu



September 25, 1974

Pardon

Dear Mrs. De Long:

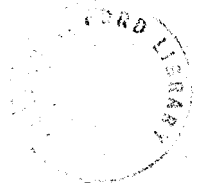
Thank you so very much for your kind letter of support to the President. The decision to grant a pardon to the former President was very difficult and, of course, it was a very personal one. President Ford remains firm in his own mind that this was the right course.

On behalf of the President, thank you for your words of encouragement.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mrs. Lucille A. De Long
170 Grand Valley D
Enon, Ohio 45323



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September 25, 1974

pardon

Dear Ms. Tufton:

Thank you for your letter concerning certain statements which I made at a recent press conference about the pardon granted to former President Nixon.

I would again assure you that President Ford did not make any prior agreement to pardon the former President. His decision was the result of a great deal of careful and thoughtful reflection. It was a difficult one made in the best interest of all our citizens.

I'm sorry you do not agree with this action but I hope you will respect the President's decision in the same way he respects your right to disagree.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Ms. Beulah Tufton
Box 375
Wolf Point, Montana



Presidential Counsel Philip Buchen

Sir:

For quite some time the American people have been bombarded with denials, closely followed by revelations which negate the denials. Please spare us any more of this nonsense. St. Clair, too, was "sure" of his clients' innocence - until he heard the tapes.

Unless you have been constantly in Ford's pocket since he was first approached to accept the Vice-presidency, you cannot be sure, and you would do the whole country a favor by keeping quiet. As much as we would like to believe you people up there, too many of you have turned out to be liars and now you are all painted with the same brush. And, as far as I'm concerned, Ford just painted himself with the Cover-up brush which Nixon apparently left behind - or bequeathed - or handed to him. Disgusting -

Beulah Tutton

Box 375

Wolf Point, Mont.

At the White House, where a spokesman disclosed Ford is studying the matter, presidential counsel Philip Buchen also denied reports Ford had secretly agreed to pardon Richard M. Nixon before Nixon resigned.

"I can assure you the President did not make a deal with Nixon for a pardon," Buchen told newsmen. "I know him that well."

A polygraph exam might satisfy me as to the truth of your statement. All the protesting you people do, does not.



September 25, 1974

Pardon

Dear Ms. Foley:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 11th concerning the President's recent action granting a pardon to the former President.

The President's action was prompted by his desire to show mercy. Although, granting a pardon to a former President is indeed a unique situation, nevertheless, executive clemency has often been used in the past by almost all Presidents.

I cannot agree with you that the exercise of this authority by President Ford will increase our national crime rate. I do very strongly believe that mercy is a necessary ingredient in the American judicial process.

I appreciate your inquiry on this important matter.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Ms. Nelle Foley
517 Plum Street
Red Wing, Minnesota



517 Plum St.
Red Wing, Minn.
Sept. 11, 1974

Mr. Philip Buchen
White House Counsel
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. White House Counsel:

What is happening to America? What in the world is wrong with this new President?

Crime in our country has reached a crisis point — yet the President hasn't found any time to deal with it.

Perhaps I am wrong in this — as in pardoning the former President and now in the possibility of pardoning the former President's associates in crime, and the draft dodgers — is he not likely creating a greater climate for crime and lawlessness than we've ever known before

You, perhaps as I, saw on T.V. yesterday (or read) of the North Dakota judge who let free two prisoners whose jail terms were not up — saying, "They're probably sitting up there (the jail) wondering why they are there."

Then the rebels in Madison last night who demanded the Governor open up all the prisons.

This is only the beginning — don't you think?

How nice it would have been had the President had as his priorities: crime and inflation.

He seems to have little concern for the loyal, patriotic American.

When he gets the pardons finished up for the former Pres, his associates, and the draft dodgers, what next?

By then — will it be about time for the President to be establishing a villa or so (a la Clemente or Key Biscayne) for himself — at another great expense to the Am. people? I can hardly believe that the White House and Camp David will be enough even though Mr. Nixon had over a half million spent on Camp David.

How nice it would be if Pres. Ford would be interested in getting the Secret Service expense away from Key Biscayne. I think the Am. people would appreciate it if the former President would sell Key Biscayne and give the money from it back to the Government.

Yes, his bitter as are millions of Americans who have lost faith. I suppose I will remain that way until there is a change — if there ever will be. I could go on and on.

How do you counsel him?

Yours truly,
m . . . 21

After I finished my letter, some other thoughts came to mind which I would like to include. I taught school for a number of years and have observed the great change that has come over our youth.

It was not until the very last few years that I would walk into a large auditorium and see little 7th and 8th graders stubbornly sit during the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. "Why?"

(1) Their consciences told them that it was wrong (I am talking about little 12 and 13 yr. olds) to pledge allegiance to the flag of a country which had given them so much.

(2) Their consciences told them it was wrong to stand during an assembly program and take part in singing the National Anthem — and so they sat.

Some people ask why they were not compelled to at least stand.

Their rights!! One must not forget their rights!!

(3) And so a few years pass by! Then their consciences tell them it is wrong to join the real loyal Americans who went to war — so they took off to Canada, Sweden, and where have you!

In reality their consciences told them nothing during all those years — but to rebel.


Then our President comes along with a conscience that wants them all back! For what? These draft dodgers say they have suffered enough and apparently the President thinks they have.

(4) I wonder what the President's conscience tells him about the patriotic boys! (the real Am.)

who went to war and came back with an arm missing, a leg missing, or some other physical or mental problem.

- (2) I wonder what the President's conscience tells him about those still missing in action — and those who lost their lives in the war.
- (3) Quite often the President refers to Mr. Nixon's "loved ones" — saying they have suffered enough. I wonder if the President's conscience ever tells him that these loyal Am. boys most likely also belonged to lovely and loved families. They may not have been rich nor had power — but I'm sure they had feelings.
- (4) I also wonder if the President's conscience had ever told him that out of respect for those loyal Am. boys — and because Sweden, Canada, etc. seemed so appealing to the others when they were needed ^{here} that perhaps they should stay there. Apparently not!
- (5) I wonder if the President's conscience told that there may be the question of loyalty (still) if they were allowed back. Will they cause trouble when they get back — and does his conscience tell him that he's already in enough trouble! "Catch them, rebel!!"

"The President constantly talks of 'healing the wounds'." It seems that he is doing just the opposite!



September 25, 1974

Dear Governor Waller:

The President has asked me to reply to your telegram of September thirteenth. On his behalf, I warmly thank you for your expression of support.

President Ford remains strong in his conviction he chose the right course of action, and I know he appreciates your message.

With appreciation.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchan
Counsel to the President

Honorable Bill Waller
Governor of Mississippi
Jackson, Mississippi



The White House
Washington

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PMS THE PRESIDENT

WHITEHOUSE DC

YOUR GRANTING OF A PARDON TO MR. NIXON WAS IN THE BEST
INTEREST OF OUR NATION, IN WHICH I CONCUR

RESPECTFULLY

BILL WALLER

GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI

NNNN



1974 SEP 13 PM 3 55

RECEIVED
SEP 13 1974

Pardons

September 25, 1974

Dear Kent:

I appreciate your thoughtful letter of the twelfth. Your thoughts are very close to my own. Many thanks for writing.

Sincerely,

**Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President**

**Mr. Kent Greenawalt
Columbia University in the
City of New York
School of Law
435 West 116th Street
New York, New York 10027**



Parson

September 25, 1974

Dear Mr. Hoving:

The President has asked me to reply to your kind letter of September 18, 1974. Thank you so very much for your expression of encouragement with respect to President Ford's decision to pardon the former President.

I must say your letter is to the point. It is very much appreciated.

Most sincerely yours,

**Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President**

**Mr. Walter Hoving
Chairman
Tiffany & Co.
Fifth Avenue and 57th Street
New York, New York 10022**



1-1 *10000*

TIFFANY & Co.
FIFTH AVENUE & 57TH STREET
NEW YORK 10022
TELEPHONE PLAZA 5-8000

AP
WALTER HOVING
CHAIRMAN

September 10, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

You did the right thing.

Let the hyenas howl.

Hurray for you,

Walter

WH/cgg



Pardon

September 25, 1974

Dear Mr. Stump:

Concerning your letter of September 11, 1974, I regret that you have taken such offense at the pardon of the former President as to conclude without foundation and wrongly about the basis for it.

Your letter also indicates that I should have known the President had given consideration to how leniency requests from other Watergate defendants would be handled. I made my statement on this subject on September 8, in a press conference. This was the date the President granted the pardon. Within the next few days inquiries were received from attorneys and relatives of these defendants. Only thereafter was it determined to give these matters consideration and, despite press comment on an individual basis, rather than on any overall basis, and through use of existing procedures.

I hope this clears up your questions.

Most sincerely yours,

**Phillip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President**

**Mr. Dale W. Stump
Suite 644, Southern Hotel
Main and High Streets
Columbus, Ohio 43215**



SOUTHERN HOTEL - SUITE 644

MAIN AND HIGH STREETS
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215
(614) 228-6909

September 11, 1974

Mr. Philip W. Buchen
White House Counsel
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Buchen:

I started to write you the other day--then delayed it. But you keep acting in a way that no one in your position has a right to do, so I must express myself.

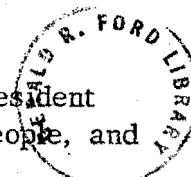
Furthermore, I am enclosing William V. Shannon's column in the COLUMBUS CITIZEN-JOURNAL, our local Scripps-Howard paper, and I hope that you will read it seriously.

Having spent a lifetime close to government service and political activity (Republican), I know the problems you will have as an inexperienced man in Washington. However, the President has been there 25 years, and in that length of time he should know how to find someone with much more experience and more capable for this job than you are proving to be.

The other day you said that the President had not given any consideration to giving pardons to other Watergate persons. If you had not discussed this with him, as a lawyer you should know that the President would have given consideration to this matter or he would have been very stupid indeed.

Many of us had hoped that after the years of deceit and criminality in the White House, we could look forward to genuine openness and not a pretended one.

It was most disappointing to have you publicly say that the President had not given consideration to pardons for other Watergate people, and



Mr. Philip W. Buchen
Page two
September 11, 1974

then to learn definitely that he had done so. After all, you are not only close to the President now but you have been his law partner for many many years.

We do hope that terHorst's resignation will shock the President into a recognition that pragmatic considerations if not innate honesty will make him avoid such situations in the future.

I am sure that it is now becoming quite clear to most people that President Ford and former President Nixon did make a deal. I am sure that you must know that. And if you do not know it, then you should definitely reexamine your relationship.

Sincerely yours,

Dale W. Stump

DWS:hke

Clipping enclosed



SOUTHERN HOTEL - SUITE 644

MAIN AND HIGH STREETS
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215
(614) 228-6909

September 9, 1974

*Copy to
Mr. Buchan*

Mr. Jerry F. terHorst
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. terHorst:

Your presence in the White House brought a breath of fresh air. Everything that you appeared to do from the first day that you joined the President brought renewed confidence of those wanting integrity and honesty in the White House.

I have, however, been wondering for some days how you could take the hypocrisy, which recently has been more obvious.

Now I write to commend you for your courage in submitting your resignation after yesterday's experience. I hope that your willingness to leave the man that you have known so intimately for more than 25 years and aided so often, will shock him into a change. It would have been great for the country if some person had been able to do that to Richard Nixon many years ago.

I know from my experience in government and politics, and observation over a long time, how difficult it is to keep one's perspective, to keep one's integrity, and not succumb to the pressures and to the temptation to compromise.

I respect you deeply, and the American people are greatly indebted to you.

Cordially,

Dale W. Stump

Dale W. Stump

DWS:hke



September 24, 1974

Dear Congressman Hinshaw:

The President has asked me to respond personally to your letter of September sixteenth, in which you requested that consideration be given to releasing Special Prosecutor Jaworski's analysis of a memorandum from the former President's attorney. I do not have an analysis made by Mr. Jaworski's office. Nor do I know whether there is such a formal written memorandum. You might wish, therefore, to make a separate inquiry of the Special Prosecutor.

Mr. Jaworski has, however, written to me on the same subject, although his letter was not a response to Mr. Miller's memorandum. I made certain portions of this letter public during a press briefing on September 8, and I am enclosing an underlined copy for your information. Of course, you are free to use these quotations.

I do hope this information helps you to formulate a response to your constituents. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance in this matter.

Most sincerely yours,

**Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President**

**The Honorable Andrew J. Hinshaw
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515**

Enclosure

**cc: Mr. Timmons
Mr. Max Friedersdorf**



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 19, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP BUCHEN
THROUGH: WILLIAM E. TIMMONS *BT*
FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *mf*
SUBJECT: Attached letter from Congressman Hinshaw

Congressman Hinshaw would like a response that he could release to the public if it would be helpful to the President in defending his decision. If it is not to be released to the public, the Congressman will understand and cooperate, and we should so advise him.



September 19, 1974

Dear Andy:

I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your letter to the President in which you inform him that your constituents are asking for your reaction to the pardon granted former President Nixon.

I have carefully noted your views and your request, and I have passed along your letter for the attention of the President and his appropriate legal advisers.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

**Max L. Friedersdorf
Deputy Assistant
to the President**

**The Honorable Andrew J. Hinshaw
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515**

✓ bcc w/incoming to Philip Buchen -- please see attached memorandum

MLF:EF:jk



14
COMMITTEES:
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
LEGAL AND MONETARY AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
CENSUS AND STATISTICS
INVESTIGATIONS

ANDREW J. HINSHAW
39TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

September 16, 1974

9-12
CHIP CLEARY
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

811 NORTH BROADWAY
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92701
PHONE: (714) 836-2611

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
PAUL M. STEWART, JR.
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

*Can Nixon pardon
comment*
BT
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am receiving many letters, telephone calls, and telegrams from my constituents in California's 40th District, which comprises a major part of Orange County, where Mr. Nixon has his residence in San Clemente. These inquiries address themselves to the reasons why Mr. Nixon received a pardon from you. My reaction to your decision is demanded.

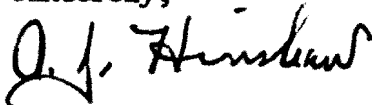
In reading the media, it would appear the comments about this matter have not included substantial reference to the analysis made by Mr. Nixon's attorney, Mr. Herbert J. Miller, regarding the difficulty of Mr. Nixon receiving a fair trial if he had been indicted in the Watergate matter.

Nor, for that matter, has any reference been made to that analysis on the subject by Mr. Leon Jaworski, the Special Prosecutor.

Mr. Miller's memorandum and excerpts were published in the New York Times, dated September 11, 1974. I believe it would be in the public interest, and specifically to my constituents' interest, if the reaction and response by Mr. Leon Jaworski to Mr. Miller's analysis also were to receive substantial public dissemination.

On this basis, I would respectfully request that serious consideration be given to releasing Mr. Jaworski's analysis of the same points of concern as were contained in Mr. Miller's memorandum.

Sincerely,



ANDREW J. HINSHAW
Member of Congress

AJH:dm



September 24, 1974

Dear Mr. Model:

Thank you for your brief note of September 11th attached to a letter from The Southern Poverty Law Center. I have already read this enclosure as the White House Counsel's office is on the mailing list of the Center. At this time, no application has been filed with the Pardon Attorney by these defendants.

On the subject of the pardon granted the former President, I would like to point out that no one has suggested a correlation between the degree of suffering and the right to a pardon. Rather, the President acted in the belief that all factors taken together justified his act.

I appreciate the fact that you have taken time to express your concern.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchan
Counsel to the President

Mr. F. P. Model
No. 37 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10023



9/11/74

MEMO to Philip W. Buchen

Your skill at sophistry boggles the mind!

Speaking of "undue suffering," perhaps you could look over the attached and bring this case to the attention of The President. I suspect that in the instance at hand, Mr. Ford's pardoning powers might be more suitably applied, and unquestionably, more appreciated.

With utmost disgust and outrage,



F. PETER MODEL
Alienated Voter (Republican)



Julian Bond, President

Dear Friend,

The enclosed clipping describes a case which may shock or surprise you, especially if you are among those who believe that the Supreme Court abolished the death penalty in 1972. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Capital punishment is still very much alive in the United States, and the life-and-death debate over its continued existence goes on.

But even among those who favor death for certain crimes, there is no debate when it comes to the execution of the innocent. And it is my firm belief that three innocent men have been sentenced to die in North Carolina's gas chamber.

Jesse Walston, Vernon Brown and Bobby Hines, three young black men, were convicted of a crime which stirs up the ugliest depths of anti-black hatred and prejudice -- the rape of a white woman. Briefly, as the clipping states, the woman voluntarily entered their car one evening when they offered her a ride just outside Tarboro, North Carolina. They did have sexual intercourse with her, but the crucial question is whether she was raped or not.

I and everyone else here at the Southern Poverty Law Center are convinced that their conviction for rape was a major miscarriage of justice, and I believe some of the points listed below will convince you too:

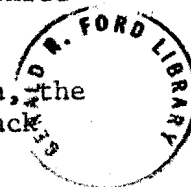
1. At the woman's request, the men drove her to within a block of her home, where she got out of their car. Why would men who had supposedly just raped a woman extend such a courtesy to their alleged victim? At the time, she was observed leaving the car by several whites. Did she suddenly find her reputation at stake?

2. In contrast to the usual victim of rape, the woman was unscratched, unbruised and physically uninjured in any way.

3. The day after the incident, all three men went about their normal activities. Is this how the perpetrators of such a terrible crime would behave? Jesse Walston, who had been visiting his mother in Tarboro, soon returned to his home in Washington, D.C. But the day his mother telephoned that he was wanted for rape, he got into his car and drove back to Tarboro alone to square things.

4. The defendants were given a chance to plead guilty to the lesser charge of assault with intent to commit rape, a crime carrying a fifteen-year sentence and the possibility of parole in three years. But, to quote Jesse Walston, "We weren't going to say we'd done anything we didn't do, even if it would get us out in three minutes."

5. Although the population of Tarboro, North Carolina, the city where they were tried, is over half black, only one black



person was on the jury which heard their case.

6. The jury was allowed to spend a night at home before rendering their verdict. Although the law does not require that a jury be sequestered, allowing them to go home seems, at best, an unwise procedure in a case like this. Emotions ran high in Tarboro, and the possibility of outside pressure having been put on members of the jury is a strong one.

These are a few of the "hard" facts in the case, but there are other, less tangible things which are difficult and perhaps impossible to convey in a letter like this. The look in a man's eye, the tone of his voice, how he answers a particular question -- these are things which Morris Dees, an attorney for the Center, has seen first hand.

Mr. Dees has been to North Carolina and talked with Jesse, Vernon and Bobby. He came away from his initial interview with them convinced that a terrible injustice has been done to these men, and he is determined to see that they shall not suffer the horrible fate of asphyxiation in the gas chamber.

To give you some idea of the remarkable courage and spirit of these men in the face of death and the dehumanizing conditions of their confinement, I have enclosed a copy of a letter, written on death row, which they sent to the Center before Mr. Dees' first visit.

After this personal interview and a careful study of the summary of their trial, the Center has begun the long and arduous task of appealing their conviction. Center lawyers have made numerous appearances before the Supreme Court of the United States, and this case could well lead them back there to challenge the constitutionality of the death penalty and abolish capital punishment in this country once and for all.

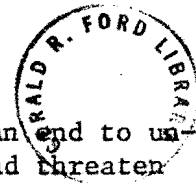
CRUEL, BUT NOT UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT
IF YOU ARE POOR AND BLACK

In 1972 the Supreme Court struck down existing capital punishment laws, based on the fact that they were applied arbitrarily and discriminatorily. "Mercy clauses" written into these laws were regularly used to give lesser sentences to more affluent or socially "acceptable" defendants, while poor people and blacks convicted of almost identical crimes received the death penalty.

At present, over twenty states have written new capital punishment laws which they feel overcome the Court's objections. But, even under these new laws, the death penalty still discriminates racially and economically. Of the more than eighty people now awaiting execution in the United States, well over half are black and all are poor. Jesse, Vernon and Bobby were convicted under North Carolina capital punishment laws which have seen twenty-two blacks, one American Indian and only ten whites sentenced to death.

MUST THREE INNOCENT MEN DIE?

We at the Southern Poverty Law Center feel it is time to put an end to unjust laws which discriminate, defy all standards of human decency and threaten



NORTH CAROLINA
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

The Southern Poverty Law Center
(Full Name of Addressee)
Montgomery, Alabama
(Street Number)

835 West Morgan St.
(Unit Name and Number)
Raleigh, N.C. 27603
(Post Office Address)

(City)

(State)

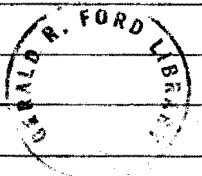
Dear Sirs,

We are the defendants in the accused case of rape, last August the 5th 1973 in the County of Edgecombe, Town of Tarboro, N.C. We were tried on December the 3rd 1973 in Tarboro Superior Court. We were convicted December the 9th and the death penalty was pronounced against us.

We know of your deep concern about our case, and that you are helping us on our appeal. We want you to know that we appreciate everything that's being done on our behalf. We thank God for you. We hope that the real truth can be brought out in this case.

We now face the death penalty, because of injustice and prejudice. Also because we turned down the state's offer to plead guilty with an intent to commit rape. We said we were not guilty of the crime rape, therefore we wasn't pleading guilty to anything. We also feel that justice wasn't rendered unto us during the entire matter. More because of prejudice, which we and others even smelled as we walked through the Courtroom doors. It was altogether an unfair, injustice, and prejudice trial and we will fight right down to the very end. We feel that the battle can be won and the truth of the matter can be revealed.

So again, we thank you for helping us. We pray day and night that the truth will be revealed. We ask you all to pray along with us.



Cordially Yours,
FROM Mr. Jesse L. Watston
(Full Name of Inmate)
Mr. Vernon L. Brown

... and soon)

Three Men to Die in Gas Chamber

Tried on Dec. 3 for raping a white woman and convicted on Dec. 9, three black men now await death in the gas chamber at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Sentenced under North Carolina's revised death penalty statute are Jesse Walton, 24, of Washington, D.C.; Vernon Brown, 22, of Tarboro, N.C.; and Bobby Hines, 23, also of Tarboro. The trio was taking a ride one night last August when they saw a woman walking along the road just outside of Tarboro. Walston, who was visiting his mother in Tarboro, stopped the car to offer her a ride.

Witnesses attest that the woman voluntarily entered the car and all sides in the case agree that the men had sexual relations with her.



Jesse Walton

After returning to Washington, Walston learned in a telephone call from his mother that the Tarboro police wanted him for rape. He declared his innocence and returned to Tarboro to clear his name. The question of his guilt or innocence, and that of his two companions, turned on whether the woman agreed to have sexual relations with them. The jury, which consisted of 11 white persons and one black man, found the three black men guilty, and they received the death sentence, now mandatory for rape under North Carolina law.

Plea Bargaining Refused

When the defendants were offered the opportunity

to plead guilty to the lesser charge of assault with intent to commit rape, a crime which allows parole in as little as three years, all three refused, contending that they were not guilty of any crime. They continue to assert their innocence to this day.

"They were convicted because that girl had to protect her reputation (she was observed leaving the car near her home by several whites)," says Walston's brother, Leroy.

No Previous Records

Walston, who like his two companions had no previous police record, has lived in Washington since 1969. A high school graduate, he worked for a department store and has been married 2½ years. His son is 1½, his daughter 6 months.

Brown, also a high school graduate, was studying auto body repair at a technical school until his arrest, and Hines, who completed the eleventh grade, worked as a tow motor operator to help support his family.



Vernon Brown

Convictions Appealed

The men were to die on Jan. 10, but a stay of execution has been granted pending an appeal. The Southern Poverty Law Center, a Montgomery, Alabama based organization, has taken on their appeal.

September 24, 1974

Mr. Edmund J. Overton
15 North Jackson Street
Janesville, Wisconsin 53545

Dear Mr. Overton:

Thank you for your letter of September 13th regarding your personal feelings of the pardon granted to the former President. Your expressions of encouragement are deeply appreciated and I will forward them to the President.

The decision to grant a pardon was indeed a difficult one and I know President Ford appreciates your support.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President



Edmund J. Overton

15 NORTH JACKSON STREET
JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN 53545

Sept. 13, 1974

Philip W. Buchen, Counsellor
to the President,
White House
Washington
D. C.

Dear Sir:

I suppose you are flooded with letters telling the President how things should be done.

First I would like to give you my personal background. I have been active in the Republican Party in Wisconsin for over 40 years. I have been on personal terms with Walter Kohler, Vernon Thomson, as well as Warren Knowles.

I have served as County Chairman, and have been active in Congressional and State Senate and Assembly campaigns.

I feel I have a personal touch with the voters in my area. I would like to give you the reaction of the voters of this area.

There has been a mixed reaction regarding the pardon that President granted Richard Nixon.

I find the critics to be mostly those who were anti-Nixon people through Watergate.

Many feel that President Ford cost himself much in the way of personal prestige.

Many feel that he has made an error that will be costly in getting programs through Congress.

Many feel he cannot have a program to stop inflation because he has lost the confidence of the public.

May I now give you my personal feelings. In the first place there has been no evidence of Nixon having been a party in planning Watergate.

Secondly, it was the humane thing to do. I am aware that the opponents are the Democratic politicians, for the very fodder they were going to use has been burned.



Edmund J. Overton

15 NORTH JACKSON STREET

JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN 53545

Secondly, the Press Radio, and Television group have had a source of propaganda terminated.

As an illustration, Howard K. Smith, who I consider the most fair-minded commentator on the air, together with Harry Reasoner, used almost all of their 30 minutes last monday evening on the pardon issue.

Bear in mind that the loss of 50 to 100 million dollars in the sugar crop was suffered in the South. Not one word was mentioned, instead a re-hash of the old Watergate tripe was discussed.

I am tired, and I think the public is likewise tired of the likes of Cronkite, a \$ 300,000.00 a year commentator re-hashing the whole affair. If he is so smart, and worth such money, why has'nt he, and the others got some answers?

There can be no economic recovery in the Country until Watergate is behind us, and attention devoted to the program of recovery.

May I further say that until interest rates are reduced to 9% there can be no recovery. There can be no investment stimulation until this is done.

Our local Banks are charging over 11 % on business loans, yet there is no increase in Savings interest paid by them.

When they were charging 8% they were paying 5% on Savings. Today they still pay 5% but loan it out for over 11%, doubling their take.

This is neither fair or just. There can be no home building until the interest is reduced.

I care not what a group of economists, labor leaders, or industrialists say. This country is made up of the vast numbers of people who are the victims of Wall Street, Labor Unions, and Industrialists.

I am 100% behind President Ford and I am using every effort I can summon to support him.

I sincerely this letter will get to you and not be filed by some sub-ordinate.

I feel this is the sentiment out this way. I hope it will receive consideration.

Yours very truly,

Edmund J. Overton



September 24, 1974

Dear Mr. Bryant:

Thank you for your letter of September 14th enclosing an article by Evans and Novak. It was kind of you to take the time to write and offer your expression of support. I appreciate it very much.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchan
Counsel to the President

Mr. Tom Bryant
P.O. Box 61654
Houston, Texas 77061



Honorable Philip Buchen P.O. B. 6165;
Aide to President Ford Houston,
% The White House Texas
Washington, D.C. 77061

Dear Mr. Buchen:

Sept. 14, 1977

Enclosed is an article by the
Washington writers Evans and
Novak, that may be of interest.

The President has said there is
other pertinent information that
will be made public at the proper
time about the "Pardons." The public
should not be too hasty about formu-
ring their opinions about the Pard

I wish the new administration
much success.

Deep personal regards. Cordially



Tom Bryant

Did somebody get to Ford?

Swiftness of pardon counter to President's earlier statements

By Rowland Evans
and Robert Novak

By succumbing to emotion and not even waiting for the completion of a secret study on the effects of pardoning Richard M. Nixon, President Ford has raised serious questions of his performance in time of crisis.

At the moment Sunday morning when Ford bloodied his young presidency by issuing the pardon, selected lawyers on and off the government payroll were quietly preparing a study he had requested on legal and political ramifications of a Nixon pardon.

Preliminary reports of that study submitted to White House counsel Philip Buchen suggested it was much too soon for any possible pardon. That view was shared by Buchen himself as well as other aides President Ford brought into the White House. "I don't know one Ford man, either on his staff or in his kitchen cabinet, who wanted an immediate pardon," a Ford insider told us.

Gen. Alexander Haig, the chief of staff inherited from Nixon, was viewed by these Ford insiders as advocating a quick pardon. But not even the mighty Haig is believed influential enough to have swayed the President from the resolve expressed at his Aug. 28 press conference to await action by special prosecutor Leon Jaworski before considering

a pardon for Nixon.

What changed the President's mind? The answer is put identically by several Ford advisers: "Somebody got to Ford." Specifically, that "somebody" told the President that Nixon was in precarious condition emotionally and physically and could not survive under threats of prosecution.

This certainly was not the message brought back from San Clemente by Benton Becker, the young Washington lawyer, sent there by Ford to negotiate with Nixon. Becker encountered a composed Nixon, wholly in command of himself, and so reported to the White House.

Accordingly, the "somebody" was a person in far more intimate contact with the real Nixon at San Clemente. In the opinion of one informed Ford adviser, it was Julie Nixon Eisenhower, the former President's engagingly bright daughter who has always been a favorite of Ford's. (David Eisenhower has since publicly denied that his wife intervened in behalf of her father.)

Whoever the San Clemente caller, Ford's stunning reversal is seen by his closest advisers as dictated not by politics but by personal compassion. Here, then, is no repeat of the infamous Saturday night massacre. Mostly private criticism of the President within his own party goes not to motives but to judgment.

The cost of that bad judgment is run-

ning perilously high. By breaking past promises, Ford has shredded his own credibility and put all Republican candidates on the Watergate spot less than two months before the election. His presidency, his relations with Congress and Republican campaign prospects all have been damaged.

Republicans are consequently asking whether this was a single abysmal aberration or a clue to congenital behavior in time of crisis. They desperately hope the former is the case because of the unwholesome parallel in this crisis with President Nixon, who never consulted his party.

Only Haig, Buchen and counselor Robert Hartmann were kept fully informed about the pardon. Ford took no advance soundings of congressional reaction. A longtime Ford intimate, House minority leader John Rhodes (one of the few Republicans giving the pardon his private approval), was informed Sunday noon at the ninth tee at Burning Tree following the public announcement. Nor is there any sign that another wise old Ford crony, Melvin R. Laird, was consulted in advance. The cabinet — including still another Ford crony, Secretary of the Interior Rogers Morton — was ignored.

Least explicable of all was the failure to confide in press secretary Jerald F. terHorst. It is believed at the White House that his resignation was dictated not only by substantive disagreement

with the pardon but chagrin that, being kept in the dark, he gave incorrect information to newsmen last week.

Attempting to protect the new President, terHorst removed from the pay strident Nixon partisans such as Kenneth B. Clawson and Father J. McLaughlin. Other Ford staffers bell Haig resented this role by terHorst. Thus, the puzzle deepens: Why ignore terHorst, a savvy veteran of 16 years a Washington correspondent and a friend of Ford's even longer, and instead consult Haig?

Some side events Sunday were indeed reminiscent of Nixon days. When a cabinet member was informed Sunday morning of the President's decision, he got the strong impression from Haig that Jaworski had approved the pardon. When he later learned the special prosecutor had been properly neutral about presidential action, he felt he had been deceived.

Republicans are hoping that, though the euphoria of Ford's first month gone forever, the pardon will not prove to be a running open sore like Watergate (and, for that matter, Chappaquiddick). What really nags at them is whether this week's trauma is a preview of President Ford under extreme stress — whether somebody as persuasive as Julie Eisenhower can deflect him from a sensible operational strategy by a private appeal outside normal political channels.

September 24, 1974

Dear Mrs. Lundberg:

I would like to acknowledge your postcard to me concerning the pardon granted to former President Nixon. I'm sorry you disagree with the action taken by the President. Let me again assure you that this decision was made after careful consideration in the best interests of the country.

Most sincerely yours,

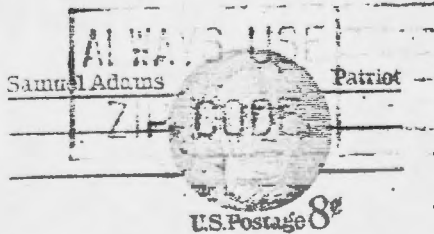
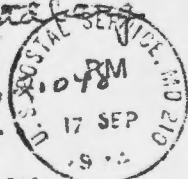
Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mrs. C. E. Lundberg
Route 2, Box 330
Flaksburg, Md. 21048



Dr. In view of Nixon's past responses to 19-11-76
inquiries, are you really so naive as to think
I would "sit still" with any future subpoena
from your man? You gossiped badly, much more
than a goof, we view it as a continuing
conspiracy to cover-up Watergate. Far from
"locking & sealing" the book on Watergate, Gold
you, Leitmann, Haig (Nixon's man) & Becker,
how did you ever happen to hire Becker, a
man under investigation himself! You
have re-opened it, Nixon committed you all you
made an agreement favoring him, not the
people, yet you held all the cards. If it
was Gold's "top priority to heal the national
wounds" he should have insisted on an ad-
mission & full truth from Nixon. You've hurt us
badly.

Mrs. Charles E. Lutz
Rt. 2, Box 330
Finksburg, Md.



Mr. Philip Buchen
Counsel to the President
White House
Washington, D.C.



September 24, 1974

Pardon

Dear Mr. Smith:

Per your request, enclosed please find a copy of the Memorandum to the Special Prosecutor on behalf of Richard M. Nixon.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. James O. Smith
Librarian
Dewey, Ballantine, Bushby, Palmer
and Wood
140 Broadway
New York, New York 10005

Enclosure



DEWEY, BALLANTINE, BUSHBY, PALMER & WOOD

140 BROADWAY

NEW YORK 10005

TELEPHONE: (212) 344-8000

TELEX: 12-6825 (DOMESTIC) 620252 (INTERNATIONAL)

CABLE: DEWBALAW

45, AVENUE GEORGE V
75008 PARIS, FRANCE
TELEPHONE: 720.85.21
TELEX: 62297
CABLE: DEWBALAW

September 12, 1974

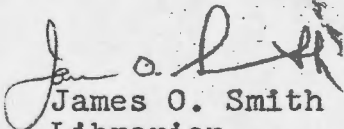
The Press Secretary,
Executive Office of the President,
The White House Office,
1600 Pennsylvania,
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Sir:

Please send me one copy of the Memorandum submitted to the Watergate Special Prosecutor on September 4, by Herbert J. Miller, Jr., Esq. arguing in behalf of former President Richard M. Nixon against any move to indict Mr. Nixon. This Memorandum was released by the White House on September 10 or 11, 1974.

Your consideration of this request is appreciated.

Yours very truly,


James O. Smith
Librarian



September 24, 1974

Pardon

Dear Dr. Pritchett:

Thank you very much for your letter of September twelfth, concerning the pardon granted to former President Nixon and other related matters.

I appreciate your comments and views concerning the important matters which this nation has recently faced. I would also like to thank you for your words of encouragement.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Dr. E. Blanche Pritchett
Route 4
Arlington, Washington 98223



by

E. Blanche Pritchett, Ph.D.
Arlington, Washington 98223

(Written September 12, 1974)

On Sunday, September 8, 1974, Gerald R. Ford, the President of the United States, "took the bit between his teeth" and did what he had to do! There was no way that President Ford could have not done what he had to do! He went before the nation on television and he pronounced a pardon for former President Richard Nixon. He stated, as clearly as he could, the basis for and the conditions of that Presidential pardon. He was the only person who could have exercised that Presidential right! He was the only person who comprehends the circumstances that caused President Nixon to resign, even though you may have heard numbers of theories and opinions. President Ford knew what his liabilities were, and he knew that self-serving motives would have caused him not to do what he knew was the right thing to do! Yes, he knew! And he went forth, courageously, to bring some measure of balance to a situation that was badly tilted out of perspective. For his sheer courage alone, he is to be respected and honored. The future will guarantee that the wisdom of his judgement was superb and timely! Of that, I am absolutely certain!

Perhaps I am carried away with my own ability to understand; it is surely not conceit on my part when I can view the situation and evaluate the possibilities. I can offer a view of my own, which you may caption as "theory" but I will feel better for having said it publicly.

For over two years now, I have been aware of the possibility that important state secrets were in danger by persons in position of trust in the Executive branch of our government. I seemed to know from the start that President Nixon could have done many things differently if it were not for his own built-in respect for national security. A President has to be aware of national security and has to guard and defend it if he is to live up to his oath of office. My view tells me that Richard Nixon withheld things to his own detriment, and ultimately to his own downfall. He did what he did because he believed it was what he should do. The extreme loyalty of his own subordinates shows a tremendous sense of loyalty and respect for confidences, and this example was set by the "Chief" himself! In being true to his own ideals, President Nixon withheld things that could have explained many things that would have caused members of the Congress to side with him. But ... he didn't take the risk.

My view tells me that Dan Ellsberg, having once been a staff member of the National Security Council, had stolen "Top Secret" documents and disseminated them to the press, and that this one act alone by a person in a "security position" would have been enough to give any truly responsible Chief Executive nightmares! President Nixon had to make decisions. His decisions had to be made in strict accordance with his own concepts of the national interest. He had to find the leaks in the White House and he had to use any method that he could use. That should be an indisputable statement! He had to do what he could, and, as Chief Executive, he could do almost anything. He chose to keep his investigations confined to as few people as possible, and only highly trusted and proven people at that! He believed within his heart that he could defend his people and handle any contingency that may have arisen. His mistake was in not realizing that any little thing would be blown all out of proportion due to the avowed Nixon-haters. In other words, he underestimated his enemy. That was a mistake, and it is a mistake to which he has referred several times. He has never claimed infallibility!

As to the pardon ... President Ford had almost one full month to view things from the exclusive position of the Chief Executive, and

[please turn page]



[thank you]

then he knew! He knew that President Nixon was truly a pariah! He knew that President Nixon was defending this country's internal peace of mind by not talking about matters that he should not talk about. In seeing this whole thing so clearly, from the one place it could be viewed (the Presidency), Gerald R. Ford made the only just and righteous decision that could have been made. But, like President Nixon, he cannot tell all of the reasons for his decision either!

Any truly objective person can look at the facts of the whole situation that has been labeled "Watergate" and see that the efforts made by President Nixon had truly noble intents and purposes. Truly!

If President Ford had not pardoned Richard Nixon, there was a possibility of an indictment by the Special Prosecutor! If Mr. Nixon took the stand under oath, he would have to tell things that could panic the citizens of the U.S. President Ford was keen enough to see all of these potential liabilities, and he made sure such a thing could not happen. He made sure that President Nixon would never be liable for perjury for withholding state secrets, etc.:

Just imagine what damage an embittered President could do if he chose to, under the same circumstances in which Richard Nixon has found himself! Just imagine if his own top aides chose to talk!

Richard Nixon had the same authority to grant pardons as President Ford now has. He did not pardon his top aides even though he would dearly have loved to do so. He did not take unfair advantage of his position. He knew that if he did, his accusers would also use that against him.

Richard Nixon was in an impossible position: no matter what he did, it would not turn out right! He chose the way he has gone so that he could live with his own conscience, but for that he has taken on the hatred and distrust of millions of people! He had to consciously make the decision to take on the appearance of villain, when in truth he is one of this nation's greatest-ever national heroes!

Now, Richard Nixon is a man who is hurting, esthetically, emotionally, and physically! He is bearing his burden while he knows just how he could relieve himself of it, but that would mean that he would have to talk about untalkable things and his attitude is that he "would rather die first"!

Now, President Ford, perhaps the only man who knows the great sacrifice made by Richard Nixon, is also bound not to talk and is being pelted by the actual enemies of this land -- enemies who exist under the cover of citizenship while trying to overthrow the government. This is the biggest of all national enigmas!

Where emotions rule, there is no charity in the hearts of the beasts who seek blood! There is only sadism and cruelty! And this is what is known as a "Christian Nation"!

Let your heart tell you the truth! Never mind the scandalmongers! Without your ears, they starve!

I have made a pledge to myself to speak of my own understanding, with a plea for others to look and understand as well. Won't you put yourself in the same position as these two topflight human beings of high caliber, and see the way it is?

* * * * *



September 24, 1974

Pardon

Dear Mr. Correll:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 15th concerning the pardon granted to former President Nixon.

The decision to grant a pardon was made by President Ford only after thorough consideration. It was done in the belief that an early pardon would more quickly bring an end to the division within our country. I realize you strongly oppose the pardon. However, the President could not make such a decision based upon whether or not it would evoke strong comment.

You have also raised a question of my involvement. I am enclosing a copy of my press conference of September 10th in which I addressed this question.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. John Correll
529 Santa Joseph Street
Venice, Florida 33595



JOHN FRANKLIN CORRELL
520 SANTE JOSEPH STREET
VENICE, FLORIDA 33595

15 September 1974

My dear Mr. Buchen:

I cannot adjourn my desire to write to you. I feel compelled to subpoena your attention because of my deep concern for the welfare of our country which is now in serious economic trouble, and once again in even more serious political trouble.

As I understand it, you^r and Mr. Hartmann are the chief advisers and counselors to President Ford whose rash and thoughtless act of pardoning Mr. Nixon has induced another national convulsion of political despair. It is not clear what roles you two gentlemen played in that decision. I would appreciate, however, a word or two denying or verifying the truth of the enclosed AP story. I have the greatest admiration for Mr. TerHorst but I want to make sure that the release is essentially correct.

To indulge in extravagant rhetoric is alien to me. But I must confess the last week's White House behavior is incredible, past belief.

I and many of my neighbors were stunned by Mr. Ford's full, free and absolute pardon. The next day was even worse with the announcement of intended pardons for all other Watergate conspirators. And then the flurry of conflicting statements from Mr. Hushen. Thoughtful citizens have been horrified by the week that was....And now today, more disclosures by Clay Whitehead.

In one fell swoop, Mr. Ford has destroyed his credibility; thwarted legal process; become involved in Watergate cover-up; created doubts of an unsavory deal; and provides grounds for doubting his capacity to govern. All of his first good has vanished in the wreckage of his heedless bad--all for a shameless man who has infinite capacity for national mischief. His entire political life denies Mr. Ford's statement that "truth is the cement of good government". Apparently Mr. Ford no longer believes, and according to Mr. TerHorst neither do you.

In despair,

John Correll
John Correll



Haig's Organization Irks Ford's Aides



Jerald terHorst
... tells of friction

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jerald F. terHorst says aides of President Ford, whom he served for a month as press secretary, find it frustrating and even demeaning to have to work through Nixon administration machinery.

Because of the sudden shift of presidential power, terHorst says, decisions of the new administration could be translated into reality only through the organization controlled by White House chief of staff Alexander M. Haig Jr.

"The Ford men naturally find that frustrating and even

demeaning," terHorst writes. "And it is especially so whenever Ford moved to change a Nixon-Haig policy."

He made the comments in a new column copyrighted by the Detroit News and Universal Press Syndicate. The syndicate said terHorst will write three columns a week for the News and that more than 40 newspapers subscribed to the column in the first 24 hours after it was offered.

TerHorst resigned as Ford's press secretary a week ago after the President granted a full pardon to former

President Richard M. Nixon.

In a separate interview with the Detroit News, terHorst said he was disturbed because he had not been consulted by Ford prior to the pardon decision, saying he could have cautioned the President about the problems it would cause.

He told the News also that presidential counsel Philip W. Buchen had misled him about the pardon, which led him earlier to give false information to newsmen. Without giving details, he said he had been misled twice before on different topics by different staff members.

In his column, terHorst wrote that Haig and his associates were not Ford's style, which he described as open and candid and not given to being impressed by lengthy memos and position papers.

"Hardest hit by Ford's style was Haig," terHorst wrote. "Nixon's preoccupation with Watergate had tremendously magnified Haig's authority in the White House and the executive branch of the government."

"For most of the final Nixon year, as Haig himself would agree, he was the acting president of the United States. With a troubled president drawing more and more within his shell, everyone in government, with the possible exception of (Secretary of State Henry) Kissinger, was working for Al Haig."

TerHorst says that as a result of frictions, Ford is spending an inordinate amount of time soothing the feelings of his loyalists and placating Haig's sensitive feelings.

Haig Says Nixon Believes He's 'Innocent'

Sarasota Herald-Tribune - Sarasota, Florida - Sept. 15, 1974

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Former President Nixon still believes he is "innocent of committing an impeachable offense" and felt that way even when he resigned the presidency, Gen. Alexander M. Haig said Saturday.

In an interview with UPI, Haig said all possibilities, including pardon, were dis-

cussed but in the end Nixon had two choices: "— to continue the fight for survival in office, recognizing the outcome was probably inevitable," or unconditional resignation "and that is what he chose."

Haig, who has been White House chief of staff for the past 18 months, will be

leaving his post next week. In a few days his appointment as Commander of U.S. Forces in Europe and Supreme Allied Commander for NATO will be announced. The NATO nations have unanimously approved his appointment, according to administration officials.

Haig confirmed published reports that his predecessor,

H. R. Haldeman who was forced to resign when the Watergate coverup began to unravel, tried to get Nixon to pardon him and other Watergate defendants.

Haig said he felt the country should now return to the task of solving its domestic problems.

WEATHER



LOCAL NATIONAL INTERNATIONAL

September 24, 1974

Pardon

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Godvin:

Thank you very much for your telegram of September 9th concerning the announcement of a pardon of former President Nixon. I'm sorry you do not agree with President Ford's decision in this matter. I do hope in time you will come to believe that his decision was best.

I would point out, and not argumentatively, that the President did not grant the pardon because he believed a fair trial for the former President impossible. The key objective was to prevent a period of prolonged divisiveness for the country of over a year or more before a fair trial could possibly occur.

Sincerely yours,

**Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President**

**Mr. and Mrs. John Godvin
8817 Baypoint Drive
Tampa, Florida 33615**



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Mailgram



MR PHILIP BUCHEN, COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT
1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE
WASHINGTON DC 20500

WE ARE SHOCKED APPALLED AND ABSOLUTELY DISGUSTED OVER THE UNTIMELY
FORD ACTION. WE ARE SICK AND TIRED OF WHEELING DEALING CRAFT CONNING
AND CONNING EMANATING FROM THE WHITE HOUSE. WE ARE DECENT MATURE
AMERICANS. WE WANT THE TRUTH THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE
TRUTH. WHO IS PRESIDENT FORD THAT HE PRESUMES THAT MR NIXON COULD
NOT RECEIVE A FAIR TRIAL IN THIS LAND. HAVING NO FAITH IN THE JUDICIARY!

MR AND MRS JOHN GODVIN 8817 BAYPOINT DR TAMPA FL 33615

15:14 EDT

MGNWSHT HSA

