The original documents are located in Box 47, folder "President - Meetings Labor (2)" of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Digitized from Box 47 of the Philip Buchen Files 8/19/74 called el to adv

at the Gerald R. Ford

Presidential Library

Monday 8/19/74

3:50 Mike Duval called re the A. L. Smith strike.

He has heard from the mediators that they have broken through and thinks it should be settled soon.

Advise len Sreffen



WASHINGTON

TO: Phil Buchan

FROM: MIKE DUVAL

For your information

Comments:

Report on strike montoned by Jenator Sinffin.

Illike

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WASHINGTON, D.C. 20427

August 15, 1974

MEMORANDUM

To: Mike Duval, Associate Director Domestic Council

From: William P. Hobgood

Subject: A. O. Smith Corp./United Auto Workers Strike

As you requested, following is a summary of the subject dispute.

Strike began on August 9, 1974 - involves 5,100 workers. Company manufactures auto frames, suspension parts, bumper supports for AMC, Chrysler, and General Motors. Several plants of these manufacturers will be severely hurt if strike progresses for any period.

Issues

Wages

Company Position	- 1st year - 38¢ per 2nd year - 18¢ per 3rd year - 18¢ per	r year
Union Position -	1st year - 65¢ per 2nd year - 50¢ per 3rd year - 50¢ per	r year

Cost of Living

Company Positio	n -	.4	-	1¢	per	year	
Union Position	-	.3	=	1¢	per	year	

- 2 -

Pensions

Company Position -1st year - \$9 per month per year of service 2nd year - \$9.25 per month per year of service 3rd year - \$9.50 per month per year of service

Retirement at age 57 with 30 years of service and \$240 per month supplement

Union Position -

1st year - \$10 per month per year of service 2nd year - \$10.50 per month per year of service 3rd year - \$11 per month per year of service

30 and out regardless of age with \$750 per month supplement

Language

Approximately 146 remaining languages including issues such as jury duty which could be cost items

Status

A National Representative of FMCS is meeting with the parties today's date in Milwaukee. From the above issues, you can see that it is a very difficult situation.

Parts Supplier Strikes **Threaten Auto Output**

By Neil D. Rosenberg Special to The Washington Post

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 14 Unless continuing strike at still on by Aug. 26, "we'll two Milwaukee-based firms have to start shutting down which, manufacture auto during the week." supplies are ended within 10. days, American Motor will begin to close down produce AM cars and Smith supplies tion.

General Motors said pro- and other suspension parts. duction of 1971 cars and trucks at five plants, sche- out locks you can't start-uled to resume Monday af them without an ignition ter the model change, has lock," the AMC official said. been suspended indefinitely. The GM plants affected.

A source at Chrysler said more, Flint, Mich, Oshawa, a light truck assembly plant Ontario, and Lakewood, Ga in St. Louis might stop production because of the that production of intermestrike. The production dis- diate sized cars at Framingruptions among the major auto makers might mean de- layed one week because of a lay to customers of some shortage of bumper sup-1975 cars and trucks. ports made at Smith. The companies on strike. The strike at Smith is the are A. O. Smith Corp., first in the company's his-which makes auto frames, tory Negotiations are sched-control arms, suspension uled to resume Thursday parts and bumper supports, morning. and Briggs & Stratton, Briggs & Stratton, which which makes cylinder locks, is also the world's largest The Smith strike has been producer of small gasoline on since Friday and involves engines such as those used 5,100 workers, and the strike for lawn mowers and snow at Briggs & Stratton began blowers, is scheduled to re-Aug. 1 and involves 7,500 sume negotiations Tuesday. workers.

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An AMC spokesman said

today that if the strikes are

Briggs & Stratton makes all the lock assemblies for most of the control arms

"We can't make cars withbecause of the stikes. are in Janesville, Wis.; Balti-A. GM spokesman said-

ham, Mass, would be de-

Federal mediators are in-

volved in both strikes.

Meeting with the President

8/22/74 -- 2:30 p.m.

PAUL HALL PRESIDENT, SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA

S. FOR

PAUL HALL

President, Seafarers International Union; President, Maritime Trades Department, AFL-CIO; Vice President, AFL-CIO.

Paul Hall began sailing in the 1930's. Since 1957, he has headed the SIU, with a membership of about 80,000. He also heads the Maritime Trades Department of the AFL-CIO, consisting of 44 international unions whose members are engaged in maritime and related crafts, and is an AFL-CIO vice president. He was a member of the Labor-Management Advisory Committee of the Cost of Living Council and a member of the National Commission on Productivity. He is an outspoken advocate of a more realistic government attitude toward the merchant marine. <u>He will be 60 years old on</u> August 20, 1974.

Hall has been mentioned often as a possible successor to George Meany as AFL-CIO president.

ISSUES

The following is Mr. Hall's position on various major issues:

INTERNATIONAL

- **a**

Hall strongly supported President Nixon's Vietnam policies, detente with China and the Soviet Union and increased trade with communist nations. He supported the 1972 bilateral shipping agreement with the USSR for the Russian grain-oil run.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY

Hall generally supports the basic domestic economic positions of the AFL-CIO except where they conflict with the interests of his membership, such as international trade.

Strongly favors passage of the Energy Transportation Safety Act, which would require that 20 percent of the nation's petroleum imports be carried on U.S. flag ships. Hall says this bill would enable the U.S. to maintain some control over its oil imports, would reduce the deficit in the ocean segment of our balance of payments, and thus would help stabilize the dollar; would protect American consumers of imported petroleum products through a costmonitoring system supervised by the Secretary of Commerce.

Strongly supports the Merchant Marine Act of 1970, which provides for construction of more ships and a revitalized merchant marine. Is fighting attacks on the Jones Act which protects domestic shipping for U.S. flag ships. Supports the U.S. Public Health Service hospital system as a means of protecting American seamen. Also supports construction of the Trans-Alaska pipeline and the hundreds of jobs it will provide for seafarers.

POLITICAL

While Hall supported Humphrey against Nixon in 1968, he supported Nixon in 1972, in opposition to official AFL-CIO position. He consistently defended Nixon in the AFL-CIO executive council meetings against attacks by Meany. He opposed the AFL-CIO call for Nixon's impeachment or resignation, standing alone in the last executive council meeting.

Hall reportedly told columnist Victor Riesel that he would back "Jerry" Ford for any office, including the presidency.

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WASHINGTON

August 21, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PHIL BUÇHEN

FROM:

ÓLE KE

Attached are talking points on cargo preference for use by the President in his meeting with Paul Hall.

Attachment



WASHINGTON

August 21, 1974

MEETING WITH PAUL HALL

Thursday, August 22, 1974 2:30 p.m. (30 minutes) The Oval Office

From: Philip W. Buchen

I. <u>PURPOSE</u>

Meeting follows your interest as expressed to Secretary Brennan for having meetings with labor representatives. You met with George Meany on Tuesday, August 13, and with Frank E. Fitzsimmons on Friday, August 16.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS PLAN

- A. <u>Background</u>: See attached information supplied by Secretary Brennan. (Tab A)
- B. Participants: Paul Hall
- C. Press Plan: Press Photo

III. TALKING POINTS

- 1. I would like to hear of your concerns for and suggestions about:
 - (a) The economic situation and the critical inflation problem.
 - (b) Uniting the people of the country to gain wide support for initiatives which need to be taken to deal with vital current problems.

- (c) Relationships between organized labor and the Department of Labor, as well as other government departments and executive agencies.
- 2. Cargo preference. (Tab B)

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Hall reportedly told columnist Victor Riesel that he would back "Jerry" Ford for any office, including the presidency.

BACKGROUND

Paul Hall is likely to seek your support for the Emergency Transportation Security Act of 1974, a bill which would require a fixed percentage of all petroleum imported into the U.S. to be carried on U.S. Flag vessels. This recently passed the House by a vote of 266 to 136 and Senate floor action is imminent. All federal agencies and departments have opposed the bill on the grounds that it is contrary to the foreign and domestic goals of the Administration and will add signficantly to the cost of energy, especially in certain areas of the country such as the Northeast. Although cost estimates of the legislation vary widely there is little doubt that it will have a substantial inflationary impact. Secretary Kissinger very strongly opposes this legislation because it adversely affects our international relations, violates over 13 treaties and will invite retaliatory action by other nations. Others who have taken a firm position against are Secretaries Simon, Dent, Butz and Brinegar and, also, Eberle, Ash.

Although a national security argument has been advocated in support of this bill, there is little factual foundation for this position. It appears that one of Paul Hall's motives is to guarantee more union jobs. However, this position is weak because shipyards are running at, or near, full capacity and, in fact, are experiencing material shortages (e.g. sheet steel). The best way to insure union security is through the direct construction subsidy administered by the Maritime Administration.

Hall may also argue that this bill will actually help consumers but Administration analysts have concluded that the facts do not support this argument.

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS

You are aware that many people within your Administration have made some very strong arguments against this bill, primarily in terms of foreign and economic policy objectives. You wish to remain flexible and look at both sides of the issue before making a decision. It is your desire that some form of compromise be worked out. Because this issue cuts across so many areas of responsibility involving State Department, Commerce, Transportation, etc., as well as economic and foreign policy matters--you will direct Bill Eberle to pull together the Administration's arguments and sit down with the appropriate leaders in the Senate to seek a compromise position.

You solicit any recommendations that Paul Hall might have, which could suggest avenues for compromise.

Desplay

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

MR. PHILIP BUCHEN DAVID PARKER Approved Presidential Activity

SUBJECT:

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Please take the necessary steps to implement the following and confirm with Mrs. Nell Yates, ext. 2699. The appropriate briefing paper should be submitted to Dr. David Hoopes.

<u>Event</u>: Meeting with Mr. Paul Hall, President, Seafarers International Union of North America

Date: Thursday, August 22, 1974 Time: 2:30 p.m. Duration: 30 mins.

Location: The Oval Office.

<u>Participants:</u> The President and Mr. Hall or others if determined by Mr. Buchen to be appropriate.

Press Coverage: Press Photo

cc: Mr. Hartmann Mr. Marsh Dr. Hoopes Mr. Jones Mr. O'Donnell Mr. Rustand Mr. Wardell Mr. terHorst Mrs. Yates

WASHINGTON

August 21, 1974

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You solicit any recommendations that Paul Hall might have, which could suggest avenues for compromise.

1:10 Tom said to remind you that at the meeting with the President yesterday, he indicated he wanted to get Paul Hall in soon.

WASHINGTON

Date AUG. 29, 1974

TO: PHIL BUCHEN

FROM: JIM CAVANAUGH

X FYI

_____ For appropriate action

COMMENTS

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

Bill Usery, Director, Federal Mediation Service

RECOMMENDED BY: Jim Cavanaugh

PURPOSE:

To show your appreciation to Bill Usery for his help in settling the Duke Power Company s coal strike

BACKGROUND: Bill Usery called at 4:00 a.m. this morning to report that the Duke Power Company's coal strike was settled. He also indicated that it looks like the negotiations on the nationat contract will start tomorrow.

TALKING POINTS: 1. Bill, I know you have worked hard on the Duke problem and I wanted to express my appreciation to you and the labor-management teams who brought this settlement about. It was a good job.

2. I know you have got a big job ahead in the national negotiations. I know I don't have to stress the importance of trying to reach an effective agreement.

SPECIAL NOTE: It would be helpful if this call could be placed prior to Jerry terHorst's press briefing today so that he could mention it at the briefing.

TO:

Meeting with the President

Thursday 8/29/74 -- 11:30 a.m.

LEONARD WOODCOCK PRESIDENT, UNITED AUTO WORKERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 29, 1974

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE OF LEONARD WOODCOCK PRESIDENT, UNITED AUTO WORKERS

THE BRIEFING ROOM

AT 1:10 P.M. EDT

MR. HUSHEN: Ladies and gentlemen, we have Mr. Leonard Woodcock, President of the United Auto Workers, who met this morning for about 30 minutes with the President.

MR. WOODCOCK: I guess the best thing to do is just go to questions and answers.

Q Was there anything you wanted particularly to tell the President or anything he particularly wanted to tell you?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, we had a discussion of the general problems we face in the economy, which certainly are extremely grave. And many of the problems are of the variety that any single domestic government has difficulty in finding the solutions.

Of course, we are at a time when, for the first time since the end of World War II, all of the industrialized countries have their economies moving in a downward direction which has terrible implications for the whole world situation.

And beyond discussing the things that are under way, there was nothing specific with regard to the whole conversation.

Q Have you a reaction to any request for a hold down on wages?

MR. WOODCOCK: That was not talked about.

him?

Q What is your reaction without talking to

MR. WOODCOCK: My position is no different than it was in 1970. Price and wage controls, absent the pressures of a war situation, I think, are unmanageable. I felt that all the way through. We were opposed to them in 1971. They bring distortions into the economy and they do not bring any remedies. Q What would you have the government manage?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, I think the question of holding down the budget has more psychological implication than any direct impact on inflation. Monitoring restraint can, I suppose, in the long run, work, but obviously if it works, it is only by slowing down the economy which brings a rise in unemployment and I am gratified to see the President is keeping a close watch on the possibility of public service employment, which is certainly the most non-inflationary way to meet the problem of growing unemployment.

I think, too, that if we could have a tax cut for the lower and middle income groups, but compensated by an increase in the tax on those in the upper income brackets and taking away some of the concessions that have been made in the last six years to the corporations, so that we are not unbalancing the budget, would also give a stimulus to the economy by increasing the purchasing power of individuals, the persons in the lower income brackets.

Q Did you express this to the President?

MR. WOODCOCK: Yes, I did.

Q What was his response?

MR. WOODCOCK: There was no response except just to listen to the point I was making.

Q We got the impression from the briefing here today that the President is leaving open the possibility of a tax increase for next year if he feels circumstances warrant that. How would you react to that?

MR. WOODCOCK: I would be opposed to a tax increase across the board because, again, I think it would have a counter-productive effect, but a tax increase on those that would then be counter-balanced by a tax decrease to the lower income groups, I think, would be very valuable to the whole economy.

Q Did you discuss General Motors' price increase?

MR. WOODCOCK: That was mentioned, yes. I said to the President, as I have said publicly, I have no way of knowing whether or not what was originally proposed by General Motors was warranted by their situation. I do know that in the first six months of this year the Chrysler Corporation on its North American activity lost money. It made money overall, but the fact they made a profit totally was by virtue of their earnings overseas and obviously that has to be a factor in the whole automobile price situation. Q If you were going to negotiate a three year contract starting this fall, what would you have to ask for for your members as far as an increase?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, the kind of wage contract that we have, if we were bargaining now, I don't think we would be trying for anything essentially different. It is a small annual increase tied to the national productivity, but with the wage levels protected in part -and I underscore "in part" -- by quarter annual adjustments for the cost of living.

Q What would that amount to as far as an increase? What would you think you would have to give your workers as an increase?

MR. WOODCOCK: The way it is working now, there will be in the first pay period of September, in addition to the three percent general increase, there will be an increase further of 13 cents an hour by virtue of the cost of living index.

Q Mr. Woodcock, did the President ask you if you would serve on the Advisory Committee to the Cost of Living Council?

MR. WOODCOCK: No, I am not even aware there is such a body.

Q Did you discuss the possibility of some type of wage-price guidelines?

MR. WOODCOCK: No, we did not.

Q What was your general reaction to the visit?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, I have a high regard for the President. I have known him for going back 26 years and I certainly think his conduct in the office has been excellent for the morale of the country.

Q Mr. Woodcock, I believe you supported the President in 1948. Do you see organized labor supporting him in 1976?

MR. WOODCOCK: 1976 is an awfully long time away. I have no estimate as to what anyone may do, myself included, politically in 1976.

Q In the intervening 26 years since you supported him for election to Congress, have you seen anything to cause you not to support him in '76?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, we supported -- I was part of a group that supported Mr. Ford in the Republican primary of 1948. At that time we had a very isolationist Congressman in the form of Bartel Jonkman, who was occupying that seat.

- 3 -

Senator Vandenberg was also desirous of having in his home constituency a person more aligned with his foreign policy views and that is how that came about.

A- 5403

In his tenure in the Congress on the AFL-CIO voting record, which would obviously be close to our estimate, Mr. Ford had a 96 percent wrong rating. But that is reflective, I think, of what is a very conservative constituency in the Fifth District of Michigan.

Q Mr. Woodcock, do you have an opinion you can give us on Mr. Ford's chief economic adviser, Mr. Greenspan?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, I have already said publicly that I think it is unfortunate that Mr. Greenspan is becoming the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers. It is not that he is not a competent economist, but he is on the far right of the economic spectrum. I think it is unfortunate that he should be the Chairman of the CEA at this time when he has such views as being against the graduated income tax and being a completely laissez faire economist. I don't think a completely laissez faire policy is going to get us out of the jam we are in.

Q Did you discuss that with the President?

MR. WOODCOCK: No, I did not.

Q How do we get ourselves out of this jam?

MR. WOODCOCK: I wish I had some magic answers, I don't.

Q Mr. Woodcock, how much time do you think -in terms of the political sentiment of your members -- does the President have to take some substantive steps towards solving the economic crisis before their honeymoon with him completely is over?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, I think there has been a favorable reaction as far as our people are concerned with the fact that the situation is being approached with candor, that we are recognizing the problem for what it is and it is an enormous problem. I don't think the American people appreciate the enormity of the economic problem we face, that it is not simply a question of having domestic policies to meet it, but to try and fashion international agreements on the flow of raw materials, and the question of oil pricing and availability, and a whole host of things that take international agreement.

I was in Germany in July, spent an hour with the German Chancellor, Mr. Helmut Schmidt, who told me his prime concern was to restrain inflation in the Federal Republic and yet he publicly sends to the new President of the United States the warning, "Don't too much restrain the American economy or the international economy may collapse."

So this is an extremely complex and difficult question. I hope that the summit meetings will reveal to the American people just how difficult and complex this is and that they quit hoping there can be magic answers and that we have to get a consensus built to try and find the right answers.

But certainly stating the problems is the first step towards finding what answers there may be.

Q Mr. Woodcock, in light of what you have just said, would you say that this is the time for the economic situation to be taken out of the political arena, as sometimes often foreign policy is done in critical periods?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, possibly that may be a product of these summit conferences, I don't know. Certainly there comes a time when the country has to come ahead of the various interests that make up the country.

Q Did the President give you any idea of what direction he is taking with the economic package?

MR. WOODCOCK: No, he did not.

Q You didn't get into it with him at all?

MR. WOODCOCK: Beyond discussing the various facets, there was no indication of a total program.

Q You got no feeling from it all whether he is talking tax increases or anything like that?

MR. WOODCOCK: No.

Q You stated your opposition to mandatory wage-price controls, but isn't there going to have to be a development of some sort of guidelines, perhaps on an industry by industry sector in order to make workable and effective this new monitoring agency and would you favor such guidelines?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, the history of the guidelines before was not too impressive. Take the automobile industry, when the automobile companies insist that they don't know what their productivity factor is -which is an obvious absurdity -- but they insist on it to us as a union and they insisted upon it successfully with the Price Commission, well, I don't know how you can have guidelines for that industry without having access to that very basic economic factor.

And a guideline, such as Mr. Simon indicated, just cost of living allowances only would be extremely inequitable and strongly opposed, certainly by UAW and I think labor generally.

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Q Did you leave the meeting knowing something that you had not known when you went into the meeting with the President?

MR. WOODCOCK: I don't think so, no, sir.

Q Can you tell us what you said to the President on this subject of public service appointment, or did that come up?

MR. WOODCOCK: Yes, I raised it, I said that I was gratified to see that in his press conference of yesterday that he took note of the possible need for this if the unemployment situation continued to worsen, and that we had long been supportive of such a project.

Certainly the work that is out there in the communities, both large and small, it is not a make-work project, but the work there is aching to be done.

I did say to the President that I am personally quite amazed at the fact that unemployment has been restrained to as low levels relatively as it had. I would have expected that by the summer we would have reached the point of six percent and been heading upwards.

Obviously much of the reduced production has been taken out of overtime rather than out of laying additional people off.

Q Mr. Woodcock, what kind of President do you think Mr. Ford is going to make? Do you have confidence in his ability to handle the Administration's problems?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, I have confidence in Mr. Ford to be a competent President and I stated that before he was approved as Vice President. I think that he is bringing back our system of government to what the Founding Fathers intend, a balanced system, and I think he will build over time, a strong Cabinet and have the system operate as it should.

And I think the fact that the esteem of the Congress has moved sharply upwards, as registered by the poll that came out either yesterday or today, would indicate that the faith of the American people is being restored.

I would add to that the magnificent performance of the Members on both sides of the aisle of the House Judiciary Committee has helped in that regard.

Q Mr. Woodcock, you said you think he will form a strong Cabinet. Do you have reservations about the present one, and if so, any specific individuals?

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MR. WOODCOCK: Certainly Mr. Nixon did not have a strong Cabinet. He may have had members who would have been willing to be strong members, but weren't given the chance.

It is not for me to pass on any individuals, but I can't resist picking out one. I wouldn't cry if Mr. Butz were to leave. I still remember not only the Soviet grain deal, but accompanying that in the same spring, when we knew there were crop failures throughout the world, keeping 160 million acres out of production and not putting them back into production until the spring of 1973. Had that happened the year before, we would not be operating with a bare cupboard today.

Q How about Mr. Brennan?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, I have not been overly impressed by the performance of Mr. Brennan.

Q What about you, would you like to serve in the Cabinet?

MR. WOODCOCK: I don't think so.

Q Even if offered you would decline?

MR. WOODCOCK: If it were offered would I decline?

Q Yes.

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MR. WOODCOCK: I wouldn't be so presumptous as to say I would decline something that has not been offered.

Q Would you tell us, Mr. Woodcock, how you feel about Governor Rockefeller?

MR. WOODCOCK: I think it was an excellent choice for Vice President. Governor Rockefeller brings an expertise in administration and strong international contacts and knowledge and I think it was a very good choice.

Q Where do you think Mr. Brennan has let the rank and file down?

MR. WOODCOCK: I don't say he has let the rank and file down. I simply say his performance does not exactly rate the mark of brilliance.

Q The UAW's Community Action Program has been somewhat critical of this Administration, is that correct?

MR. WOODCOCK: Of the Ford Administration?

Q Yes.

MR. WOODCOCK: Not that I am aware of and I presume I would be aware of it if it had happened.

Q The President also said in his news conference yesterday that for the interim period the wage earner is going to have to tighten his belt. How does this go down with your members?

MR. WOODCOCK: Well, the wage earner is already tightening his belt whether he likes it or not because collectively the working class is several points behind where they were a year ago in terms of buying power and even the members of the UAW, for example, who do have cost of living protection, those cost of living payments are three months behind the beginning of the event. They are not a hundred percent to begin with so that on a relative basis the degree of belt tightening there, plus the elimination in many of the plants of overtime, which has certainly reduced their purchasing power substantially.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

(AT 1:28 P.M. EDT)



PRESIDENTIAL MEETING 8/29/74 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday 8/28/74

10:00 Nell Yates was asking if you had told Mr. Leonard Woodcock of the time of the meeting tomorrow (Thurs. 8/29) at 11:30 a. m.

Addendum to previously submitted briefing paper re:

LEONARD WOODCOCK

A possible additional item for the President to discuss with Leonard Woodcock is the President's plan announced last night in his speech to the Joint Session of Congress to reactivate the Cost of Living Council as a monitor of wage and price activities without the imposition of controls. This proposal is very similar to Woodcock's plan for the establishment of a price-wage review board as a voluntary answer to controls.

When Woodcock testified early last year in opposition to an extention of the Economic Stabilization Act he suggested that it be replaced by a permanent price-wage review board that would invoke informed public opinion to curb excessive price and wage increases. He said then that this coupled with other economic measures would help bring about full employment and economic stability.

WASHINGTON

August 28, 1974

MEETING WITH LEONARD WOODCOCK

Thursday, August 29, 1974 11:30 a.m. (30 minutes) The Oval Office

From: Philip W. Buchen WB

I. PURPOSE

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Meeting follows your interest as expressed to Secretary Brennan for having meetings with labor representatives. You met with George Meany on August 13, with Frank E. Fitzsimmons on August 16, and with Paul Hall on August 22.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS PLAN

- A. <u>Background</u>: See attached information supplied by Secretary Brennan. (Tab A)
- B. Participants: Leonard Woodcock and Philip Buchen
- C. Press Plan: Press Photo

III. TALKING POINTS

- 1. You had previously proposed a price-wage review board, and I would appreciate your views on how a reactivated Cost of Living Council should operate and should selective guidelines be established industry-by-industry?
- 2. What is the particular situation in Michigan and should the unemployment problem be tackled from area to area rather than trying a general approach?

- 3. What views do you have regarding the energy shortage, particularly as it may continue to affect the automobile industry and as it affects electric and gas utilities?
- 4. How do you look upon the relationships between organized labor and the Department of Labor, as well as other government departments and executive agencies?



LEONARD WOODCOCK, President, United Auto Workers

Became UAW President after the death of Walter P. Reuther in June 1970. Woodcock was then elected to a full term as president in April 1972. Obtaining his first job in 1933 after leaving college because of the depression. Woodcock was a machine assembler when he joined his first union--an AFL union which later became part of UAW. In 1940, Woodcock was appointed to the staff of one of UAW's Michigan regions, where he organized the General Motors Fisher Body plant in Grand Rapids. Held numerous union positions, including the vice presidency of the UAW from 1955 until he became president.

UNITED AUTO WORKERS

The United Auto Workers was founded in South Bend, Indiana in 1936 and signed its first major contract with General Motors in February 1937. The UAW was a member of the AFL-CIO until it formally disaffiliated in 1968. It formed the Allicance for Labor Action with the Teamsters shortly thereafter. The alliance disbanded at the end of 1971. The UAW currently has 1,485,609 members in 1,550 local unions across the country and in Canada.

ISSUES

Following is Mr. Woodcock's position on various issues:

FOREIGN

Opposed Nixon Administration position on Vietnam; favors amesty for draft dodgers. Approves of detente but strongly protests expulsion of Solzhenitsyn. The UAW as a union has for many years been concerned with efforts to achieve a better understanding with workers of foreign nations and has been more sympathetic than AFL-CIO policy to leftist unions or governments. A major reason for the disagreement between George Meany and Walter Reuther was the latters belief that it was necessary to learn to live and work with communist nations.

DOMESTIC

• Woodcock supports a full employment and price stability program calling for\$5 billion in public service jobs, an increase in the over-time pay rate from time and a half to double as an incentive for employers to hire more workers an increase in welfare payments, and the reversal of the broad Federal revenue sharing program with more money placed in categorical programs to expand manpower activities at the state and local level. He also favors the enactment of legislation to establish a price-wage review board as a voluntary answers to controls. He favors social security and tax reforms.

He has called for the establishment of a civilian equivalent to NASA to find ways on a crash basis to solve social and economic problems.

Woodcock charged the Nixon administration with negligence and inadequate programs on energy crisis, and opposed administration's comprehensive health plan. He favors Kennedy-Griffiths Health Security bill, wants stronger consumer protection laws and favors Ford-Mondale bill to protect workers from sudden plant closings, wants more money spent for mass transportation, calls for a nationalized railroad system and for stronger health and safety law enforcement.

POLITICAL

He consistently opposed Nixon and most of his foreign and domestic policies. He has been active in Democratic policies and was one of those considered by George McGovern as a possible Vice Presidential running mate in 1972. Bill Dodds, Washington lobbiest for the UAW, was Executive Director for the Democratic National Committee during McGovern's campaign.

Woodcock however dropped out of the Democratic party reform group and has attempted to work toward pulling the various elements of the party back together. Woodcock's political and economic views would be considered left of center.

WASHINGTON

August 28, 1974

MEETING WITH LEONARD WOODCOCK

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- 3. What views do you have regarding the energy shortage, particularly as it may continue to affect the automobile industry and as it affects electric and gas utilities?
- 4. How do you look upon the relationships between organized labor and the Department of Labor, as well as other government departments and executive agencies?

WASHINGTON

August 26, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. PHILIP BUCHEN FROM: WARREN RUSTAND

SUBJECT: Approved Presidential Activity

Please take the necessary steps to implement the following and confirm with Mrs. Nell Yates, ext. 2699. The appropriate briefing paper should be submitted to Dr. David Hoopes.

Event: Meeting with Leonard Woodcock of the UAW

Date: Thursday, August 29, 1974 Time: 11:30 a.m. Duration: 30 mins.

Location: The Oval Office

Press Coverage: Press Photo

Background: Mr. Woodcock has been a supporter of the President's for some time. A courtesy call is in order in view of the recent visits with George Meany and Frank Fitzsimmons.

cc: Mr. Hartmann Mr. Marsh Dr. Hoopes Mr. Jones Mr. O'Donnell Mr. terHorst Mr. Wardell Mrs. Yates

Saturday 8/24/74

5:20 Do you plan to invite the other labor leaders to meet with the President ----

Leonard Woodcock

I. W. Abel