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IMMEDIATE
PRECEDENCE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CLASSIFICATION
EYES ONLY

FOR COMMCENTER USE ONLY

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN

TO: DICK CHENEY

INFO:

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PAGES 4

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

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Administrative Marking

EX-1014

NARA Date 2/24/16

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 6, 1976

Please
Dacom
JPM

Confidential / Eyes Only

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN

Yesterday afternoon after it became apparent that Jerry Landauer of the Wall Street Journal was not satisfied with my statement that Congressman Ford had in fact reimbursed his Fifth District Account for Vail vacation tickets purchased November 30, 1972, I called Bob McBain to inquire if he had proof available of payment. He said that he had a cancelled check written December 16, 1972, on the Ford Sergeant at Arms account that was written to the Gerald R. Ford Fifth District account in the same amount as the Vail tickets, namely \$1,167. He also said that the stub showed it was intended for reimbursement. He indicated that the back of the check showed that it had cleared banks on January 11, 1973. I advised that if he had an inquiry from the Wall Street Journal he should allow his secretary to show but not deliver the face and back of the cancelled check.



This morning, Christopher Evans appeared at Robert McBain's office and said he was from the Wall Street Journal and wanted to verify the payment. Before there was any response to Christopher Evans, McBain called Ed Schmults, who reiterated that the secretary should show only the check front and back to Evans and should not answer any further questions.

It now appears that the cancelled check was in fact pasted back in the book next to the stub and, contrary to instructions, the secretary showed the stub as well as the cancelled check and Christopher Evans took notes as to the contents of both the check and the stub. It now appears unbeknownst to us that, at the top of the stub to which the check in question was attached, opposite the legend "Balance forward", a minus \$1,736 was shown. From this fact, Jerry Landauer deduces that when the reimbursement check of \$1,167 was written the Sergeant at Arms account would have had a deficit of nearly \$3,000.

The consequence was that Jerry Landauer called my office at 1:20 in the afternoon and relayed to my secretary the message appearing on the attached memorandum.

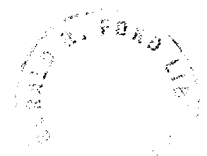
When Jack Marsh and I checked back with Bob McBain, we learned what had happened by way of disclosure to Christopher Evans. McBain also advised, however, that there was at no time in December or January any overdraft in the



Sergeant at Arms account as he could verify from the Sergeant at Arms statements of the account. Thus, it appears that the check in question, while written and dated December 16th, was not mailed until there were funds enough in the Sergeant at Arms account. By January 3, 1973, there were enough funds in that account, and thus the check was able to clear the banks on January 11, 1973.

The only effect of this disclosure is to indicate that the reimbursement of the Fifth District account, instead of occurring on or about December 16, 1972, actually occurred about January 11, 1973. The apparent reason why there is so much question about this particular transaction is the following statement, which appeared in the 13-page audit report that you have:

"One additional item included in the 5th Congressional District account consisted of Check #785 dated 11/30/72 in the amount of \$1167.00 for the purchase of tickets to Vail, Colorado for the family Christmas Ski Vacation. Mr. Ford believed that this amount has been repaid. He instructed Mr. McBain to make the necessary reimbursement which had been overlooked."



1:20 p.m.
Wednesday, October 6, 1976

Jerry Landauer
Wall Street Journal
783-0164

The following message was dictated:

We much appreciate your arranging to let us look at the reimbursement check paying for the Vail vacation. However, the check stub shows that it was written on an account at the Sgt. of Arms that was without funds. This check over drew Mr. Ford's account by about \$3,000.00.

I have been requested to ask you a couple of questions:

1. Did Mr. Ford write "bad" checks all the time or was this a one-shot accounting operation?
2. What was the status of Mr. Ford's personal account on November 30, 1972, when the plane tickets were purchased?
3. When was money deposited to cover this check and how much?
4. Did the revenue agents who examined Mr. Ford's tax returns in 1973 know about this check? If they did, can you explain why it wasn't mentioned in their examination report?

To establish these points, we request that you authorize Mr. McBain to let us examine the relevant records. Our man is standing by in Grand Rapids.

Jerry Landauer

Dictated/NOT READ
Transcribed by SAK

cc: Ed Schmults ✓

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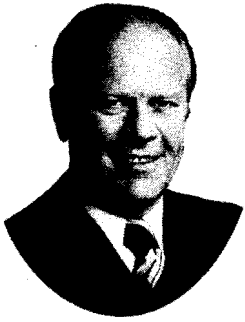
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Dictated/NOT READ
Transcribed by SAK

cc: Ed Schmults



Kent County Republican Committee

★ Home of the President ★

250 Michigan, N.E. Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 Phone (616) 459-0141

Paul B. Henry
Chairman

Carol S. Josephson
Vice Chairman

Susan J. Carl
Secretary

John L. Damstra
Treasurer

Robert L. Hooker
Finance Chairman

Robert J. Eleveld
5th District Chairman

Harold D. Garter
5th Dist. Finance Chairman

October 7, 1976

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kent County Republican Committee, Finance Committee, & 5th District Committee

FROM: Paul B. Henry and Bob Eleveld

We are sure that you have been following the news accounts of the supoenas of the record of the Kent County Republican Party by Watergate Special Prosecutor Charles Ruff. The purpose of this memo is to give you a brief outline of recent events.

On August 23, 1976, we received two supoenas from the Special Prosecutor requesting all records, memos, correspondence and any other information pertaining to the operation of the Kent County Republican Committee and the Kent County Republican Finance Committee from 1964 to present. We thereupon contacted the prosecutor in Washington and informed him of the existance of the Fifth District Republican Committee and that, although the supoenas did not cover this committee, in order to get an accurate accounting of every penny raised and spent by the Kent County Republican Party, they might also want the records of the Fifth District Committee. Shortly after this conversation, a third supoenas for the Fifth District Republican Committee was received.

We made available to local FBI agents, whose job it is to do the background investigation for the prosecutor, all files, notes, check stubs, deposit slips, correspondence and any and all material requested. During the week of September 6th, FBI agents removed from Republican Headquarters various materials for their use in the investigation.

We have cooperated in every way possible with the prosecutor's office and the FBI. Every receipt and disbursement of all three committees was handled in accordance with Federal and State election laws and duly reported with the appropriate government supervisory agency. As a matter of policy, all records of these three committees are periodically audited by an independent auditor. Additionally, all our records were closely investigated by Federal investigators in 1973 at the time of Jerry Ford's Vice Presidential confirmation hearings. In short, every financial transaction of the local Republican Party was done openly and in strict accordance with the law.

We do not know what, if any, charges were made or by whom. We simply cannot conceive of any past or present activity of the local G.O.P. even giving the appearance of being improper. As Kent County Republicans and friends of Jerry Ford, we can all pride ourselves in the honesty and openness displayed throughout the years by Jerry Ford and the local Republican Party.

We are hopeful, of course, that this will be cleared up before the election for our sake and that of the President.

cc Marsh
Buchen.
Schmitt

11:50 AM - October 7, 1976

Walter Pincus called

He said he was calling with regard to the last paragraph in today's Wall Street Journal article which refers to Ford's 5th District account. He said he talked to Mr. McBain who told him (Pincus) that any questions would have to be answered by Mr. Buchen's office.

Pincus said he has questions about the 5th District account and he wants to know if the Special Prosecutor has asked about the account.

jane



10:50 a.m.
Thursday, October 7, 1976

DICTATED/NOT READ

Dear Mr. Buchen:

Thank you for your assistance yesterday. I have been asked to renew our request to examine the flow of funds into and out of the Fifth District account, particularly for 1972.

Our man is standing by in Grand Rapids and we hope you will authorize Mr. McBain to respond to three questions:

1. What was the status of the Sgt.-at-Arms account on November 30, 1972?
2. When was money deposited to cover the overdraft that existed on December 16, 1972?
3. How often was the bank account at the Sgt.-at-Arms overdrawn in 1972?

Respectfully,

Jerry Landauer

Wall Street Journal
783-0164

cc: Ed Schmults

Thursday 10/7/76

5:30 Mr. Horrock said there has been a serious criticism made by the Wall Street Journal and you haven't done one thing to defend the President. Said a terrific mistake is being made. McBain says it's "up to Mr. Buchen"

He said he feels someone should talk to him. They will print a story that they "gave every opportunity to Mr. Buchen of handling the matter and he wouldn't cooperate."



*Mr. Schmitts
talked to
him
10/7*

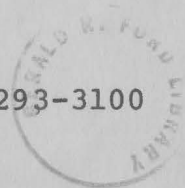
Thursday 10/7/76

- 5:00 Nick Horrock called. I told him that you had talked with John Crewdson and perhaps he could check with him.
- 5:10 Called back to say he talked with Mr. Crewdson's news editor, who is their boss, and Horrock asked him if they were satisfied; he indicates that they were not!

They close up at 7 o'clock. He said they're not carrying a rebuttal per se. They want the thing shortly available and want to go over it with you or Mr. Schmults and they will try to give it a fair and accurate account ----- on their own -- not through the Wall Street Journal!

Will be at his office in 20 minutes.

293-3100



2:55 PM
October 7, 1976

Nick Horrock called from the Atlanta Airport

He said he has been called back to Washington to do a pick up on the Wall Street Journal article. The New York Times reporters have not been able to obtain the audit report. If they cannot see a copy of the report they will be stuck with the Wall Street Journal analysis of it. Mr. Horrock would like to obtain the report and analyze it himself.

He will call again when he arrives in Washington around 5 PM.

jane

RECEIVED
OCT 10 1976
FBI - ATLANTA



Research Report

JIMMY CARTER NEWS SUMMARY
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1976

- Carter campaigned in New Mexico and Texas before leaving for Ohio.
- In a speech at the Albuquerque civic center, Carter stated, "I call on the American people to force Mr. Ford to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. I call on the American news media to insist that Mr. Ford be cross-examined in a carefully prepared, open, previously announced news conference with sound. And I call on Mr. Ford to make sure that these discrepancies are eliminated so the American people will know who he is, what he stands for, and what he means when he makes these conflicting statements." Carter added, "During our debate, Mr. Ford said, 'There is no Soviet domination of Eastern Europe.' He referred to Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Romania, and Poland and said each of these countries is independent and autonomous. Apparently, when Mr. Ford went to Poland--as happened to George Romney last time--he was brainwashed. Well, the Berlin Wall is still there. There are twenty divisions and 300,000 Soviet troops in Eastern European countries. There seems to be a discrepancy here, too."
- Carter added, regarding nuclear weapons, "I wish he [Ford] would ask his own party leader, Senator Charles Percy and Democratic Senators Ribicoff and John Glenn. They've been trying to get nonproliferation legislation through the Congress for the last year. Mr. Ford and his administration have blocked it. Again, there seems to be a discrepancy here."
- "I don't know what the facts are about Mr. Ford and his income tax. He does. All he's got to do is call a news conference. Let his voice be recorded for a change, and answer tough questions for the American news media," Carter declared. "When I make mistakes, all of you know about it. When I'm President, I'm sure going to make some mistakes. But they'll be admitted and they'll be mistakes of the heart."
- En route to El Paso, Carter released a statement regarding our "un-acceptable levels of inflation and unemployment. . .total employment is down for the first time in four months. . .there are now 500,000 more people out of work than in May and the unemployment rate is higher than it was at any time between the Great Depression and the inauguration of Gerald Ford."

WP 10/9

WP 10/9

NYT 10/9

WP 10/9

Monday 10/11/76

12:50 Mrs. Ford said she had talked with you this morning concerning checks that she had written, and indicated that IRS had apparently not checked the beauty shop that she had used. You mentioned you would get a copy of the Wall Street Journal article for her. She has found the article -- it was in the News and Comments -- so you don't need to worry about it.

She said it's a good thing that Madeline Burger doesn't work on Mondays because she'd have called her. Madeline said she very rarely cashed checks in excess of the amount of the charge for getting her hair done. (Without Susan knowing anything about the article, Mrs. Ford turned around and asked Susan "Where do I buy my stockings?" and Susan immediately answered "At the hairdresser's." Then she asked her where she cashed checks and Susan immediately answered at the hairdresser's or the Safeway.

Mrs. Ford said she knows Madeline is a good Democrat. Mrs. Ford was in there at least twice a week. This goes back to the time before she was even the manager when she lived in Park Fairfax. Mike and Jack were youngsters and it was before Susan and Steve were born. Mrs. Ford has traded at that beauty shop all that time. She has had a very long friendship with them. When they moved their shop, she moved with them. She said it's probably just as well she didn't make the call. Madeline could then go to the press and say that Mrs. Ford had called her up.

She said the trouble was that she wrote checks to the Safeway for probably \$100 -- and maybe the grocery bill was something like \$60 -- and of course, she hasn't kept her grocery slips.

Mrs. Ford said it took weeks of auditing to get the 1973 thing done and it was quite impossible to do another auditing. Mondale/Carter just gave their accounts of last year -- that's all -- nothing in the years before. But they can talk so sanctimoniously. She thinks someone ought to come out and say something.



14/

10/13

MF

Phil Bucher -
fyi



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Official Notification

Pursuant to provisions of H. Res. 1099 (90th Congress), you are hereby notified by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct that PART A of the Report of Financial Disclosure which you have filed with this Committee has been examined as indicated below. Permission for this examination was approved in compliance with provisions of House Rules.

John J. Flynt, Jr.
M.C.

JOHN J. FLYNT, JR.
Chairman.

RESPONSIBLE PUBLIC INQUIRY

1971-1972

(For persons examining PART A of Reports on Financial Disclosure)

Rules of the Committee and of the House of Representatives permit only one Report (PART A) on Financial Disclosure to be examined at a time, and require examiner to sign and complete two copies of this form prior to examination.

PLEASE PRINT

Date: Oct. 12, 1976

Examination of Report of:

Gerald R. Ford

Member, Officer or Employee of House of Representatives

Examination by:

John M. Berry

Name (print)

Correspondent

Occupation

Time Magazine

Employer

Address:

888 16th St, NW, Washington, DC

Phone:

293-4300

Reason for inquiry:

possible news story

John M. Berry

Signature of examiner (do not print)

U.S. House of Representatives

**COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT**

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

John J. Flynt, Jr.

M. C.

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

FORD-DEAN LEAD

BY MICHAEL PUTZEL

WASHINGTON (AP) -- SPECIAL WATERGATE PROSECUTOR CHARLES RUFF REPORTEDLY WILL DECIDE THIS WEEK WHETHER TO LOOK INTO CLAIMS THAT PRESIDENT FORD DISCUSSED BLOCKING AN EARLY WATERGATE INVESTIGATION WITH OFFICIALS OF THE NIXON WHITE HOUSE.

REPS. ELIZABETH HOLTZMAN, D-N.Y., AND JOHN CONYERS, D-MICH., MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE THAT VOTED TO RECOMMEND IMPEACHMENT OF RICHARD NIXON, HAVE ASKED RUFF TO LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY THAT FORD LIED AT HIS CONFIRMATION HEARINGS FOR VICE PRESIDENT.

CONYERS SAID HE MET WITH RUFF TUESDAY AND WAS TOLD THE PROSECUTOR'S DECISION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING BY THE END OF THE WEEK.

THE INCIDENT IN QUESTION OCCURRED IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1972 WHEN THE LATE REP. WRIGHT PATMAN WAS SEEKING AUTHORITY FROM HIS HOUSE BANKING AND CURRENCY COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE HIGH-LEVEL INVOLVEMENT IN THE WATERGATE BREAK-IN THE PREVIOUS JUNE.

NIXON, ACCORDING TO THE WHITE HOUSE TAPES, DIRECTED THAT THEN-HOUSE MINORITY LEADER GERALD FORD BE ENLISTED TO HELP BLOCK PATMAN'S INQUIRY. THERE ARE CONFLICTING REPORTS AS TO WHETHER NIXON'S INSTRUCTIONS WERE CARRIED OUT.

IN 1973, AFTER FORD WAS NOMINATED TO BE VICE PRESIDENT, HE TESTIFIED THAT HE HAD NOT TALKED TO NIXON, CHIEF OF STAFF H. R. HALDEMAN, DOMESTIC ADVISER JOHN D. EARLICHMAN OR WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL JOHN M. DEAN III ABOUT BLOCKING THE PATMAN HEARINGS. BUT HE ADDED THAT HE WAS IN ALMOST DAILY CONTACT WITH WHITE HOUSE LOBBYISTS DURING THAT PERIOD, ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO RECOLLECTION OF DISCUSSING THAT SPECIFIC ISSUE WITH THEM.

FORD SUPPORTED THE SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO THWART PATMAN'S INQUIRY DURING THE 1972 ELECTION CAMPAIGN, BUT HE INSISTED HE DID SO ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE.

DEAN, IN AN INTERVIEW BROADCAST TODAY ON NBC'S TODAY SHOW, SAID THE MAN DETAINED TO RELAY NIXON'S WISHES TO FORD WAS RICHARD K. COOK, A WHITE HOUSE LOBBYIST WHO IS NOW WASHINGTON VICE PRESIDENT FOR LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT CORP.

"COOK WAS THE MAN WHO DID THE LEGWORK AND DEALT WITH MR. FORD AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE (PATMAN) COMMITTEE," DEAN SAID. "I CAN RECALL DICK COMING BACK AND TELLING, FOR EXAMPLE, HOW JERRY WAS GOING TO CALL A MEETING OF THE MINORITY MEMBERS ... AND REALLY TELL THEM WHAT THEY SHOULD DO ON THE DAY OF THE VOTE AND HOW THEY SHOULD HOLD TOGETHER AND THINGS OF THIS NATURE."

COOK, IN A STATEMENT RESPONDING TO DEAN, SAID: "DESPITE JOHN DEAN'S REPETITED AND FRANTIC REQUESTS, I NEVER SPOKE WITH MR. FORD ABOUT THE NEED TO DENY MR. PATMAN'S REQUEST FOR SUBPOENA POWER," WHICH WAS THE ISSUE THE REPUBLICANS FOUGHT IN ORDER TO KILL THE PROBE.

"THERE IS NO QUESTION IN MY MIND," COOK ADDED, "THAT THE PRESIDENT TOLD THE TRUTH" AT HIS CONFIRMATION HEARINGS.

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WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE
United States Department of Justice
315 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

October 13, 1976

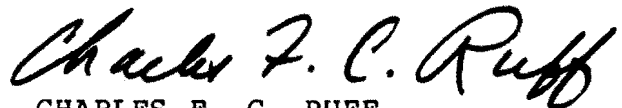
Philip W. Buchen, Esq.
Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Buchen:

As you requested, this is to advise you concerning the status of the investigation by this Office into an allegation that certain contributions made to political committees in Michigan were improperly diverted to the personal use of President Ford.

The investigation of that allegation is now complete, and the evidence developed has disclosed no violation of law on the part of President Ford. The matter has therefore been closed.

Sincerely,



CHARLES F. C. RUFF
Special Prosecutor



ORIGINAL RETIRED TO
SPECIAL DOCUMENTS FILE

WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE

United States Department of Justice

~~1425 K Street, N.W.~~

Washington, D.C. ~~20005~~ 20530

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JUS-431



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



WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE
United States Department of Justice
315 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

OCTOBER 14, 1976

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ATTACHED IS A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE WATERGATE
SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.,
TODAY.*

*When informed of the intent of this Office to
issue a statement which would discuss the nature
of the investigation and the underlying allega-
tion, Counsel to the President indicated that
there was no objection to such a disclosure.



By memorandum dated July 13, 1976, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation brought to the attention of the Attorney General information concerning alleged misuse of political contributions by President Gerald Ford during the period from 1964 to early 1974. The Attorney General requested that the Watergate Special Prosecution Force assume jurisdiction over this matter, and the Special Prosecutor agreed to do so, pursuant to the regulations governing his office which permit the assignment to him of matters which do not fall within his primary jurisdiction. ^{*/} Formal assignment was accomplished by a memorandum from the Attorney General to the Special Prosecutor dated July 16, 1976.

The information furnished to the Attorney General by the FBI concerned a previously unreported allegation that political contributions from certain named unions had been transmitted to political committees in Kent County, Michigan with the understanding that they would be passed on to Mr. Ford for his personal use. This allegation was made to an agent of the FBI by an individual who had recently become aware of the underlying information. Investigation has revealed no apparent motive on the part of this individual to fabricate.

^{*/} The relevant portion of the Attorney General's Order 551-73, dated November 2, 1973, setting out the jurisdiction of the Watergate Special Prosecution Force, is as follows:

The Special Prosecutor shall have full authority for investigating and prosecuting offenses against the United States arising out of the unauthorized entry into Democratic National Committee Headquarters at the Watergate, all offenses arising out of the 1972 Presidential Election for which the Special Prosecutor deems it necessary and appropriate to assume responsibility, allegations involving the President, members of the White House staff, or Presidential appointees, and any other matters which he consents to have assigned to him by the Attorney General.

Upon receipt of the referral from the Attorney General, the Special Prosecution Force, with the assistance of agents of the FBI, examined various public documents reflecting contributions made by the unions as well as those received by Mr. Ford or committees acting on his behalf. FBI agents then undertook an examination of the books and records both of the unions' political arms and of the Michigan committees. Persons who might have relevant information were interviewed either by the FBI or by attorneys on the staff of the Special Prosecution Force, or both. In addition, on September 30 the Special Prosecutor contacted counsel for President Ford and requested that he furnish certain information relating to the President's personal finances. Counsel for the President complied with this request and, also at the Special Prosecutor's request, authorized the Internal Revenue Service to make available the work product of its 1973 audit of President Ford's income tax returns for the years 1967-1972.

The evidence developed during this investigation was not corroborative of the allegation on which it was predicated. Nor did evidence disclosed during the inquiry into that allegation give reason to believe that any other violations of law had occurred. Accordingly, the matter has now been closed, and counsel for the President has been so advised.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 15, 1976

Dear Mr. Wyman:

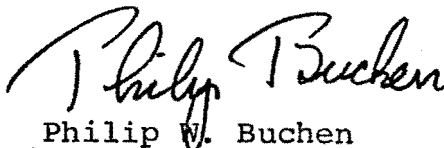
On behalf of the President, I thank you very much for your letter to him of October 6.

As we all learned yesterday, the Office of the Special Prosecutor brought to conclusion the investigation which he had started sometime in July.

The reactions of the President you undoubtedly observed on television last evening.

We very much appreciate your interest and help.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Louis C. Wyman
Wyman & Bean
1662 Elm Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03104

LAW OFFICES
WYMAN & BEAN
1662 ELM STREET
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03104

LOUIS C. WYMAN (ON LEAVE)
ARTHUR E. BEAN, JR.
RODNEY L. STARK

TELEPHONE
AREA CODE 603
627-4111

October 6th, 1976

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

Dear Mr. President:

The latest from Loeb is enclosed. I thought you might be interested.

Gerry relayed to me the impressions of the other day. It's just a shame as well as all wrong what the Special Prosecutor's office is doing in relation to your campaign, just as it destroyed mine in 1974.

My very best to you. I think you're going to make it but it's sure uphill all the way. Don't let up but take care to stay rested.

Always - and respectfully,

Louis C. Wyman
Louis C. Wyman

W/s
Enc.

An Editorial

Farkas and Ford

Remember that phony Farkas scandal used by John Durkin to smear Louis Wyman and defeat him? Remember how this newspaper and others requested that Wyman be found either guilty or not guilty of the charges? This was so the voters would have the facts before them as they voted. Remember how the Watergate committee just couldn't possibly do that? Remember, however, that after Durkin was safely elected, a report finally came out that showed Wyman to have been blameless in the Farkas affair?

Our readers will certainly recognize that the same tactics are now being used on Ford by that same Watergate Prosecutor's office. Yet, former Watergate prosecutor Jaworski, a reliable gentleman who handled the tragic Nixon affair, has issued a public statement saying he

AN EDITORIAL Page 10

An Editorial

Farkas and Ford

(Continued from Page One)

has looked into the matter and there is nothing there. But that doesn't prevent the Democrats, who seem to control the Special Prosecutor's Office, from attempting a smear of President Ford. This they are doing by allegedly investigating the President's supposedly improper use of campaign funds.

As is well known by the readers of this newspaper, we are not enthusiastic supporters of Mr. Ford, but fair play is fair play, and what the Watergate office is doing now in connection with Ford constitutes the same sort of dirty political tricks as those played on Wyman in the matter of the Farkas case.

NEW HAMPSHIRE VOTERS WILL NOT BE TAKEN IN BY THIS LATEST APPARENT USE OF THE WATERGATE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES. THROUGH THE FARKAS CASE, THEY HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE WITH THIS TYPE OF POLITICAL FLIMFLAM. THE QUESTION IS, HOWEVER, WILL THE REST OF THE NATION BE FOOLED BY THIS KIND OF POLITICAL SMEARING BEING APPLIED TO PRESIDENT FORD? THIS NEWSPAPER SINCERELY HOPES THAT WILL NOT BE THE CASE.

William Loeb
WILLIAM LOEB, Publisher



WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE
United States Department of Justice
315 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

October 13, 1976

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

Dear Mr. Buchen:

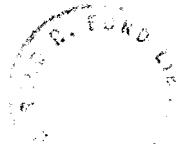
As you requested, this is to advise you concerning the status of the investigation by this Office into an allegation that certain contributions made to political committees in Michigan were improperly diverted to the personal use of President Ford.

The investigation of that allegation is now complete, and the evidence developed has disclosed no violation of law on the part of President Ford. The matter has therefore been closed.

Sincerely,



CHARLES F. C. RUFF
Special Prosecutor



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Cheney
notified the
Vice President

October 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PHIL BUCHEN

FROM:

JACK MARSH

The attached will be announced today by the Special Prosecutor at 10:00 a.m.

At the time of the announcement, would you contact immediately Vice President Rockefeller.

WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE

United States Department of Justice

315 9th Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20530

October 13, 1976

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Sincerely,

Charles F. C. Ruff

CHARLES F. C. RUFF
Special Prosecutor



WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE

United States Department of Justice

315 9th Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20530

OCTOBER 14, 1976

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ATTACHED IS A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE WATERGATE
SPECIAL PROSECUTION FORCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.,
TODAY.*



*When informed of the intent of this Office to issue a statement which would discuss the nature of the investigation and the underlying allegation, Counsel to the President indicated that there was no objection to such a disclosure.



By memorandum dated July 13, 1976, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation brought to the attention of the Attorney General information concerning alleged misuse of political contributions by President Gerald Ford during the period from 1964 to early 1974. The Attorney General requested that the Watergate Special Prosecution Force assume jurisdiction over this matter, and the Special Prosecutor agreed to do so, pursuant to the regulations governing his office which permit the assignment to him of matters which do not fall within his primary jurisdiction.^{*/} Formal assignment was accomplished by a memorandum from the Attorney General to the Special Prosecutor dated July 16, 1976.

The information furnished to the Attorney General by the FBI concerned a previously unreported allegation that political contributions from certain named unions had been transmitted to political committees in Kent County, Michigan with the understanding that they would be passed on to Mr. Ford for his personal use. This allegation was made to an agent of the FBI by an individual who had recently become aware of the underlying information. Investigation has revealed no apparent motive on the part of this individual to fabricate.

^{*/} The relevant portion of the Attorney General's Order 551-73, dated November 2, 1973, setting out the jurisdiction of the Watergate Special Prosecution Force, is as follows:

The Special Prosecutor shall have full authority for investigating and prosecuting offenses against the United States arising out of the unauthorized entry into Democratic National Committee Headquarters at the Watergate, all offenses arising out of the 1972 Presidential Election for which the Special Prosecutor deems it necessary and appropriate to assume responsibility, allegations involving the President, members of the White House staff, or Presidential appointees, and any other matters which he consents to have assigned to him by the Attorney General.

Upon receipt of the referral from the Attorney General, the Special Prosecution Force, with the assistance of agents of the FBI, examined various public documents reflecting contributions made by the unions as well as those received by Mr. Ford or committees acting on his behalf. FBI agents then undertook an examination of the books and records both of the unions' political arms and of the Michigan committees. Persons who might have relevant information were interviewed either by the FBI or by attorneys on the staff of the Special Prosecution Force, or both. In addition, on September 30 the Special Prosecutor contacted counsel for President Ford and requested that he furnish certain information relating to the President's personal finances. Counsel for the President complied with this request and, also at the Special Prosecutor's request, authorized the Internal Revenue Service to make available the work product of its 1973 audit of President Ford's income tax returns for the years 1967-1972.

The evidence developed during this investigation was not corroborative of the allegation on which it was predicated. Nor did evidence disclosed during the inquiry into that allegation give reason to believe that any other violations of law had occurred. Accordingly, the matter has now been closed, and counsel for the President has been so advised.



Inside Politics

Maritime Labor Chiefs Backed Carter
After Getting Specific Pledges -- In Writing

WASHINGTON -- Suddenly American journalists have discovered what this column has been reporting for some time now -- that maritime labor leaders are the practitioners of the nation's most sophisticated political power plays.

And they play it hard. They are tough pragmatists. They do their homework. They are super special lobbyists. And they never, but never, get political stardust in their eyes when it comes to delivering to their members. Meaning, getting them off the beach into well-paid seagoing jobs.

What catapulted Jesse Calhoon's 20,000-member Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn. (AFL-CIO) into the headlines this time was the crude effort of an FBI informer to "position" President Ford -- with now obviously fake information supposedly proving that the waterfront unions pieced off the President of the U.S.

That is -- bribed him. Well, Watergate prosecutor Charles Ruff is not a latter-day specialist in unionism. For a long time he headed the Justice Department's Criminal Division's Management and Labor section. Now Chuck Ruff says Jerry Ford is clean.



No one is too big for the maritime labor chiefs to tackle. They tied the Canadian government into such hard knots back in the early '60s that the Dominion's prime minister was forced into an emergency conference with the late President Kennedy.

And I can recall a White House gathering when the late President Lyndon Johnson looked across the dining room at the labor leaders lunching with him and said that most people believe the President of the U.S. is the most powerful man in America.

But no, he added, pointing at the Seafarers' Paul Hall, the president of the 8-million member AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Department, "that man just beat me" in the Congress on the maritime bill.

Then, during the next administration, the maritime leaders backed Dick Nixon. He was their man because he played it big for them -- in shipbuilding and cargo carrying. And all through the years there's always been affection for Jerry Ford. For them he was "right" on Maritime. And for them that's the name of the game.

Then President Ford vetoed the Energy Transportation Security Act of 1974. They had fought for this one for years. It called for far heavier trans-ocean freight and more jobs

than in any era except wartime. They had counted on Congressman Ford. Later, Vice President Ford. But President Ford sits in a different chair. So he vetoed the bill. That cut him out.

They were rebuked. And in this business no labor chief can turn to his followers and ask them to back the rebuker for reelection. Truly sorrowful, they turned to Gov. Jimmy Carter. They offered. He bought. Heavy.

To this very minute Jerry Ford's and Paul Hall's voices light up when the other is mentioned. They're fond of each other. But they're professionals like Sunday afternoon football pros playing for bread. No personal hard feelings. And they wanted to keep it that way. So MEBA's Jesse Calhoon took the lead.

On May 11, the engineers' union president met privately with Mr. Carter for almost an hour in an ex-Congressman's Watergate apartment. They began "handling." The man from Plains said fine, he'd go along. He needed that labor support. It was still a long way to the national nominating convention.

At 9 p.m. May 25 in New York's Park Sheraton Hotel, suite 2124, they met again. Jesse Calhoon walked into an inner room as Mayor Abe Beame ambled out. For over an hour

the candidate and the labor chief went point-by-point over a letter Gov. Carter was to send to Jesse Calhoon -- for public use.

The men from maritime labor were taking no chances. As one told me, "We nailed him down and in writing." So no one later can say there wasn't an understanding on the specifics of the agreement.

That three-page letter, dated May 25, was addressed, "Dear Jesse." It was signed "Jimmy Carter." That didn't go down so well. But all that mattered was the document in hand. This proved Mr. Carter was seapower-oriented and he would push for a big merchant marine. The labor chiefs had him pledged not only to bigger oil loads in American tankers but more international trade for U.S. freighters carrying ore, bauxite, wheat -- the whole thing.

On June 30 they met with him in a closed caucus in the Shoreham Americana here. Thus they all were -- and are -- political partners. Later that day the Democratic frontrunner was the guest of honor in the same hotel at a "Maritime Management-Labor Salute." Calhoon introduced the Georgian as the next President of the U.S.

These maritime leaders are realists. Their precincts are the holds, the decks, the engine rooms, the master and

mates' quarters and the radio shacks of the American merchant fleet. That's where the Paul Halls and the Jesse Calhoons deliver. Their quid pro quo is made up of campaign money, manpower and the nation's most efficient vote machine.

They deliver. They expect delivery. But that's no reason for some hack informer to try to frame President Ford. That was a cheap shot.

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FIELD NEWSPAPER SYNDICATE
401 NORTH WABASH AVENUE KB
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

14/

10/20

MF

To Philip Bucher

hvj



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Official Notification

Pursuant to provisions of H. Res. 1099 (90th Congress), you are hereby notified by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct that PART A of the Report of Financial Disclosure which you have filed with this Committee has been examined as indicated below. Permission for this examination was approved in compliance with provisions of House Rules.

John J. Flynt, Jr.
M.C.

JOHN J. FLYNT, Jr.
Chairman.

1972

RESPONSIBLE PUBLIC INQUIRY

(For persons examining PART A of Reports on Financial Disclosure)

Rules of the Committee and of the House of Representatives permit only *one* Report (PART A) on Financial Disclosure to be examined at a time, and require examiner to *sign and complete two copies of this form prior to examination.*

PLEASE PRINT

Date: Oct 19 1976

Examination of Report of:

GORDON R. FORD - 1972 -

Member, Officer or Employee of House of Representatives

Examination by:

MARY Russell - Reporter - Washington Post

Name (print)

Occupation

Employer

Address:

1518 L St. N.W.

Phone:

223-7433

Reason for inquiry:

research for story

Mary A. Russell

Signature of examiner (do not print)

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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

WASHINGTON
John J. Flynt, Jr.
ALWAYS
M. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 16, 1976

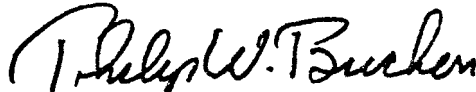
Dear Mr. Geelhoed:

Thank you very much for your letter in which you ask that the circumstances which led to the investigation by the Special Prosecutor of how contributions to the Ford Congressional campaigns were used.

There is no inclination on our part to pursue a matter that is long since closed, and I think it best to leave this subject to the scrutiny of future historians.

In behalf of the President, I thank you for your good wishes and laudatory comments about his Administration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Philip W. Buchen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Philip" being more prominent.

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Bruce Geelhoed
Director
Carmichael Residential Instruction
Project and Assistant Professor
of History
Ball State University
Muncie, Indiana 47306

RESIDENTIAL INSTRUCTION PROJECT
Office of Undergraduate Programs



November 9, 1976

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

Dear Mr. Buchen:

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen with a question about the recent charges made against President Ford in regard to his Congressional campaign finances. Mr. Ruff's office seemed to handle the matter with some dispatch but I still wonder why no effort appears to have been made to identify either the informant or the possible motives of the informant. The latest issue of Time states that the President's campaign was plagued for "three weeks by the charges of a single informant whose identity is still not known." This seems grossly unfair that an individual may make charges against the President during an election campaign, and then after the President is exonerated, no effort is made to follow up on the story.

I would welcome any further public airing of this matter. If it is in your power, or that of the Attorney General or Mr. Ruff, to shed further light on either the charges or the informant and his motives, I believe the American people would profit from the knowledge and the political process would be viewed as more open and fair.

Very respectfully yours,

Bruce Geelhoed

Bruce Geelhoed, Director
Carmichael Residential INstruction Project
and Assistant Professor of History

*As a former Grand Rapids resident,
best wishes to you and President
Ford. Your leadership has been an
inspiration to those of us who
believe in sound, responsible government*