

The original documents are located in Box 17, folder “Freedom of Information - Requests (1)” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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of booklet
to remind us
I will send on

file



THE WHITE HOUSE

1/27/75

TO: Phil Buchen
FROM: Bill Casselman

Information _____

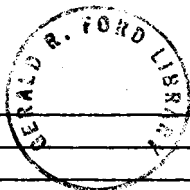
Action:

As appropriate _____

See me _____

Please reply _____

Concur and return _____



Per your request. After reviewing the
attached material, will you please forward
it to Brent Scowcroft. Thanks.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Classified Material Attached

January 27, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Brent Scowcroft

FROM: Bill Casselman *BK*

Enclosed is a copy of the Special Report of the Interagency Committee on Intelligence (ad hoc) which I received today from John Keeney, Acting Assistant Attorney General. Per my memorandum to you of December 24, 1974, will you please advise me as to which portions of this document, if any, may be declassified for purposes of production to the Plaintiffs in the case of Socialist Workers Party, et al. v. Attorney General, et al., 73-CIV 3160 (S. D. N. Y.).

Thank you.

Enclosure



Classified Material Attached

~~TOP SECRET~~

22 JAN 1975

William E. Casselman II
Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Casselman:

Pursuant to your request to Edward S. Christenbury of this office, please find enclosed a copy of the Special Report of the Interagency Committee on Intelligence (Ad Hoc), for use by you in determining the continued need for the classification of this document.

Sincerely,

JOHN C. KEENEY
Acting Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS



~~TOP SECRET~~

December 24, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Brent Scowcroft

FROM:

Bill Casselman

Per our recent discussion, attached at Tab A is a letter from Assistant Attorney General Henry Petersen requesting that we advise him as to which portions of the Special Report of the Interagency Committee on Intelligence (Ad Hoc), prepared for former President Nixon, can now properly be declassified for purposes of production in the case of Socialist Workers Party, et al. v. Attorney General, et al., 73-CIV 3160 (S.D.N.Y.). Certain portions of the above-referenced document have already been printed in Book VII-Part I of the Statement of Information prepared by the House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary. To the extent that portions of the document continue to be classified, it will be necessary to enter a formal claim of privilege as to their disclosure. Would your staff please review this document and advise me whether or not you wish to continue its classification.

Similarly, certain classified White House documents have been reprinted in the Report of the Senate Selection Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, the New York Times edition of those hearings entitled the Watergate Hearings, and the Statement of Information prepared by the House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary, pursuant to House Resolution 803. Because of these publications, the Department of Justice has presumed that such documents have now been properly declassified. However, the Department has requested confirmation of this view.

Please advise.

Enclosure

WEG:bw



December 5, 1974

Honorable William E. Casselman II
Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Casselman:

Pursuant to your conversation with Edward S. Christenbury of this office, please find enclosed an undated memorandum from Tom Charles Huston to H. R. Haldeman, subject: Domestic intelligence Review, which is classified Top Secret. The enclosed document was provided to us by Mr. Huston, pursuant to a request by the plaintiffs in the case of Jane Fonda v. L. Patrick Gray, et al., Civil No. 73-2442-MML (C.D. Cal.) for all documents in Mr. Huston's possession relating to the Special Report of the Interagency Committee on Intelligence (ad hoc), June 1970. Because the document was classified by the White House, we would appreciate your determining whether the document can now be properly declassified. Should you determine that the document continues to merit classification, it will be necessary for us to prepare a formal claim of Executive privilege to preclude disclosure of the document to the plaintiffs in the above case.

I am also enclosing a memorandum from Mr. Haldeman to Mr. Huston dated June 19, 1970, which is classified Confidential. I would likewise appreciate your reviewing this document to determine whether it can now properly be declassified or whether a formal claim of Executive privilege should be asserted as to its disclosure to the plaintiffs.

In another action, Socialist Workers Party, et al. v. Attorney General, et al., 73 Civ. 3160 (S.D. N.Y.), the plaintiffs there have requested a copy of the Special Report of the Interagency Committee on Intelligence (ad hoc) which was prepared for the President by that Committee. As you are aware, portions of this document were produced in Book VII-Part 1 of the Statement Of Information prepared by the House of Represent-

CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

copy 2 of 9 copies

atives, Committee on the Judiciary. In light of this disclosure, it is requested that you now advise what portions of the Report have or can now properly be declassified. In the event portions of the document continue to be classified, it will be necessary for us to assert a formal claim of Executive privilege as to their disclosure.

Similarly, during the course of depositions and hearings in these and other cases, inquiries frequently arise as to classified White House documents which have been reprinted in the Report of the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, the New York Times edition of those hearings entitled The Watergate Hearings, and the Statement of Information prepared by the House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary, pursuant to House Resolution 803. Because of these publications, we have presumed that such documents have now been properly declassified. However, if any such documents continue to be classified, we would appreciate your so advising.

Because we must promptly produce the enclosed documents or assert a claim of privilege as to their disclosure, we would appreciate your early consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

HENRY E. PETERSEN
Assistant Attorney General



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Freedom of
Information
Act*

March 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO:

PHIL BUCHEN

FROM:

JIM COLLIER *jc*

SUBJECT:

Request under Freedom of Information Act
for records etc. of President's Cabinet
Task Force on Oil Import Control

Attached is a letter from Mr. Robert E. Jordan, III, of Steptoe & Johnson requesting certain materials under the Freedom of Information Act. I would appreciate advice from the Counsel's office as to how to proceed and preparation of a draft interim reply, if appropriate, acknowledging receipt of the request.

Encl.



STEPHENS & JOHNSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

(202) 223-4800

TELEX: 89-2503

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MICHAEL K. WYATT
MURBERT A. SCHNEIDER
OF COUNSEL

February 28, 1975

Mr. James E. Connor
Secretary to the Cabinet
The White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Connor:

Pursuant to the provision of the Freedom of Information Act, Pub. L. No. 93-502 (Nov. 21, 1974), amending 5 U.S.C. § 552 (1970), we hereby request copies of all documents reflecting the document retention/destruction systems of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control which systems have been promulgated pursuant to 44 U.S.C. ch. 29, 31, 33 (1970), C.F.R., Subpart 101-11.4-Disposition of Federal Records, and any internal regulations or policies of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control relating to the document retention/destruction systems. Such documents should include:

(1) All General Record Schedules promulgated by the Administrator of the General Services Administration which govern the retention/destruction of all documents generated by, or in the control and/or possession of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control.

(2) All Record Control Schedules promulgated by the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control which govern the retention/destruction of all documents generated by, or in the control and/or possession of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control.

(3) Any and all other documents including memoranda, correspondence, and policy statements, which reflect the document retention/destruction systems affecting all documents generated by or in the control and/or possession of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control.

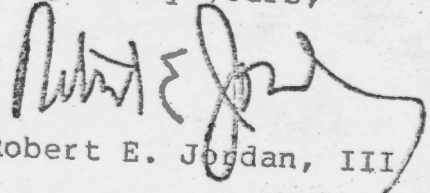


We would appreciate your prompt attention to this request. In the event that all the requested materials are not immediately available, we request that you immediately furnish what materials are available and advise us as to when the remaining materials will be furnished. We expect all responses to this request to be within the time limitations of the newly-amended Freedom of Information Act and requested materials to be made "promptly available" in accordance with the terms of the Act.

We are prepared to pay any fees which may be reasonably required for the production of this information and which are in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Whenever you have material to provide pursuant to this request, if you will advise me of the fee involved, I will see that our check is tendered promptly.

If there are any questions concerning this request, please feel free to call me. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Very truly yours,



Robert E. Jordan, III



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Freedom of
Information
Act*

March 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO:

PHIL BUCHEN

FROM:

JIM CONNOR *jc*

SUBJECT:

Request under Freedom of Information Act
for records etc. of President's Cabinet
Task Force on Oil Import Control

Attached is a letter from Mr. Robert E. Jordan, III, of Steptoe & Johnson requesting certain materials under the Freedom of Information Act. I would appreciate advice from the Counsel's office as to how to proceed and preparation of a draft interim reply, if appropriate, acknowledging receipt of the request.

Encl.



12 3/3/75

STEPTOE & JOHNSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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TELEX: 89-2503

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HUBERT A. SCHNEIDER
OF COUNSEL

February 28, 1975

Mr. James E. Connor
Secretary to the Cabinet
The White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

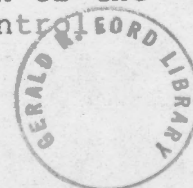
Dear Mr. Connor:

Pursuant to the provision of the Freedom of Information Act, Pub. L. No. 93-502 (Nov. 21, 1974), amending 5 U.S.C. § 552 (1970), we hereby request copies of all documents reflecting the document retention/destruction systems of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control which systems have been promulgated pursuant to 44 U.S.C. ch. 29, 31, 33 (1970), C.F.R., Subpart 101-11.4-Disposition of Federal Records, and any internal regulations or policies of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control relating to the document retention/destruction systems. Such documents should include:

(1) All General Record Schedules promulgated by the Administrator of the General Services Administration which govern the retention/destruction of all documents generated by, or in the control and/or possession of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control.

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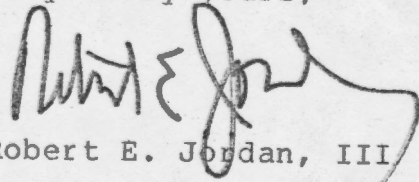


We would appreciate your prompt attention to this request. In the event that all the requested materials are not immediately available, we request that you immediately furnish what materials are available and advise us as to when the remaining materials will be furnished. We expect all responses to this request to be within the time limitations of the newly-amended Freedom of Information Act and requested materials to be made "promptly available" in accordance with the terms of the Act.

We are prepared to pay any fees which may be reasonably required for the production of this information and which are in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Whenever you have material to provide pursuant to this request, if you will advise me of the fee involved, I will see that our check is tendered promptly.

If there are any questions concerning this request, please feel free to call me. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Very truly yours,



Robert E. Jordan, III



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 22, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Margita White
FROM: Bill Casselman *NS*

Referencing our telephone conversation today, I am enclosing an information sheet on the request by Morton Halperin for certain national security-related documents. Halperin has not as yet filed suit, nor has a final determination be made with respect to his request. Therefore, should the President receive any questions on this subject, I would recommend that he merely reply that the matter is under review by the appropriate agencies.

Enclosure

bcc: Phil Buchen



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

FEB 21 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. BUCHEN
MR. CASSELMAN ✓
MR. LAZARUS

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act Request for
Documents Relating to The Intelligence
Agencies

Under the new amendments to the Freedom of Information Act, we have received a request by Morton Halperin for documents indicating the FY 76 Budget requests for the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office and the Defense Intelligence Agency. He has also requested the documents indicating the expenditures of public funds by these entities for FY 74. Apparently similar requests have been made to other executive branch agencies.

We are in the process of contacting other agencies to insure that there will be compatible responses to this request. We are also coordinating our efforts with the entities about whom the information is requested and with the Department of Justice.

The new amendments present special problems for our response, including the in camera review provisions for classified documents and the requirement that the document not merely be classified, but that all parts of it are properly classified. When the President vetoed these amendments, he cited as one basis for his action the questionable constitutionality of this provision. We shall consider that history as we formulate our response to the request, as well as the apparent viability of the use of other exemptions provided in the Act.

Under the amendments, the ten days we have to reply to the request will expire on March 5.

William M. Nichols
William M. Nichols
Acting General Counsel



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1975

*Freedom
of info.*

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CONNOR

THROUGH:

PHIL BUCHEN

P.W.B.

FROM:

DUDLEY CHAPMAN *DC*

SUBJECT:

Request under Freedom of Information
Act for records etc. of President's
Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control

Attached is a reply for your signature in response to the Freedom of Information Act request of Robert E. Jordan, III.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1975

Dear Mr. Jordan:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information request of February 28, 1975, for documents of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control.

I am informed by White House Counsel that all of those documents are within the custody of the National Archives, and that your request should, therefore, be directed to the Archivist.

Sincerely,

James E. Connor
Secretary to the Cabinet

Mr. Robert E. Jordan, III
Steptoe & Johnson
1250 Connecticut Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20036



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO:

PHIL BUCHEN

FROM:

JIM CONNOR

SUBJECT:

Request under Freedom of Information Act
for records etc. of President's Cabinet
Task Force on Oil Import Control

Attached is a letter from Mr. Robert E. Jordan, III, of Steptoe & Johnson requesting certain materials under the Freedom of Information Act. I would appreciate advice from the Counsel's office as to how to proceed and preparation of a draft interim reply, if appropriate, acknowledging receipt of the request.

Encl.



STEEPTOE & JOHNSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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OF COUNSEL

February 28, 1975

Mr. James E. Connor
Secretary to the Cabinet
The White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Connor:

Pursuant to the provision of the Freedom of Information Act, Pub. L. No. 93-502 (Nov. 21, 1974), amending 5 U.S.C. § 552 (1970), we hereby request copies of all documents reflecting the document retention/destruction systems of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control which systems have been promulgated pursuant to 44 U.S.C. ch. 29, 31, 33 (1970), C.F.R., Subpart 101-11.4-Disposition of Federal Records, and any internal regulations or policies of the President's Cabinet Task Force on Oil Import Control relating to the document retention/destruction systems. Such documents should include:

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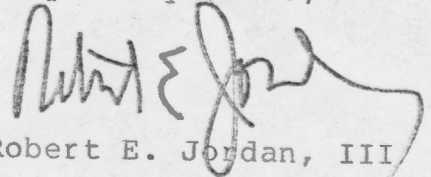


We would appreciate your prompt attention to this request. In the event that all the requested materials are not immediately available, we request that you immediately furnish what materials are available and advise us as to when the remaining materials will be furnished. We expect all responses to this request to be within the time limitations of the newly-amended Freedom of Information Act and requested materials to be made "promptly available" in accordance with the terms of the Act.

We are prepared to pay any fees which may be reasonably required for the production of this information and which are in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Whenever you have material to provide pursuant to this request, if you will advise me of the fee involved, I will see that our check is tendered promptly.

If there are any questions concerning this request, please feel free to call me. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Very truly yours,



Robert E. Jordan, III



3/6/75
sent to
Casselman —
for top priority



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 4, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR PHILIP BUCHEN

FROM:

RON NESSEN *RHN*

SUBJECT:

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Attached is a letter from Maxine Cheshire of the WASHINGTON POST, which was received March 4, 1975, by Larry Speakes of my staff, who handles inquiries from Mrs. Cheshire.

I would appreciate your advice before replying to this letter.



The Washington Post

1150 15TH STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20071

(202) 223-6000

March 3, 1975

Mr. Larry Speakes
Assistant Press Secretary
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Larry:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC, Section 552, I hereby request that you disclose to me for inspection and copying the following records:

1. A list of donors and amounts contributed to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House since its formation.
2. A list of expenditures by that Committee, along with the names and addresses of all persons to whom payment was made for any purchase or service.

As I have indicated earlier to you by phone, I would like this information as promptly as possible. In view of President Ford's policy on openness in such matters, I cannot imagine that he or anyone in his administration would feel that the public does not have a right to know who gives to this historic White House project and how the money is spent.

Sincerely,

Maxine Cheshire
Maxine Cheshire



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 13, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP W. BUCHEN
FROM: Jeanne W. Davis *JWD*
SUBJECT: Request for Papers from the
Nixon Administration

The NSC staff has received the attached Freedom of Information Act request for the declassification and release of cables containing exchanges between President Nixon and Mr. Kissinger in December 1972 while Mr. Kissinger was in Paris negotiating the settlement in Vietnam.

Since these cables are considered part of the papers of President Nixon, we are uncertain about our responsibilities in processing this FOI inquiry. We would therefore appreciate guidance from White House Counsel as to how we should respond to this and similar requests for White House documents originated during the Nixon Administration.

We must reply to the pending request by March 24 so would appreciate a response from your office by next Friday, March 21.

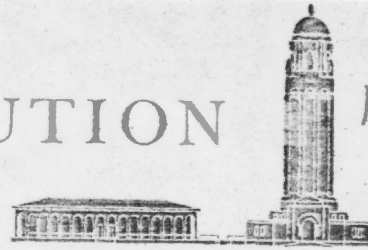
Freedom of Information
1490
3/14
sent to
Casselman



HOOVER INSTITUTION

ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE

Stanford, California 94305



1490

Mr. Stephen Sancke
National Security Council
Washington, D. C.

March 6, 1975

Dear Mr. Sancke:

I am writing to see if it would be possible to make some material bearing on the Vietnam negotiations available to me under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. I think the material in question important to have on the public record in light of the controversey reference to it has generated.

The material in question concerns telegrams from Henry Kissinger to President Nixon in early December 1972 (i.e., 4 or 5 December is my guess) and one sent to Kissinger from the President in response. Charles Colson described the former cable as including the sentences "Start the bombing immediately. These madmen have double-crossed us." Mr. Colson said the latter cable instructed Kissinger to "keep negotiating."

Obviously, these telegrams form an important part of the history I am trying to write (a project description is enclosed for your information), and your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated. I should also add that after talking with Dan Brown at the Department of State and learning of the results of his search of both the Central files and those maintained in the Secretariat, it was my guess that the telegrams in question would be held in the National Security Council.

Sincerely,

Allan E. Goodman

AEG:ljl

Enclosure



The Vietnam Negotiations
Allan E. Goodman
Department of Government and International Relations
Clark University

The Vietnam war was negotiated over almost as long as it was fought. Yet, the contribution of negotiations to a political settlement in Vietnam is one of the least discussed aspects of the war. This is also the case in the literature on the more than 50 internal and regional wars that have occurred since 1945. While the need to negotiate with Communist and revolutionary political forces has actually increased and the incidence of regional and internal wars has not declined, little is being distilled from the Vietnam experience about the prerequisites for and the role of negotiations in conflicts where the US has an overriding interest in promoting political settlements.

A political settlement in Vietnam now depends on whether negotiations provide both sides with incentives to limit fighting and shift the conflict from the military to the political arena. The private talks from 1969-1972 and the January and June 1973 Kissinger-Tho agreements focussed on limiting warfare; normalization of relations between the adversaries and creation of modalities for a political settlement are still ahead.

While much can be gleaned from the public record -- it is far richer than that available even now on the 1954 Geneva Conference -- interviews with principals in the public and private talks are crucial to assessing what lessons the negotiators think should be learned from Vietnam. The following questions, therefore, are central to my study:

- what produces a commitment to seek a negotiated settlement;
- what types of issues are negotiable;
- what role do battlefield developments, detente, and domestic politics play in determining the course of negotiations;
- what difficulties are unique to negotiating with Communist states and revolutionary political forces; and,
- what role do the negotiators think diplomacy can play in promoting political settlements to internal and regional wars?

Such questions are designed to make possible both an assessment of the bases for peace in Vietnam and the lessons of the experience most applicable to future conflicts.

This study is supported by the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace of Stanford University where I will be in residence as a National Fellow for 1974-1975.



Allan E. Goodman
Clark University
Worcester, Mass.

Allan E. Goodman is a foreign policy analyst and student of problems of social and political change. His special interests are in U.S. foreign assistance and defense doctrines, diplomacy and negotiation during limited wars, the causes and consequences of Soviet-American detente, the political consequences of urbanization, and the contribution that national legislatures can make to political integration in praetorian polities.

Prior to joining the faculty of Clark University in 1970 and where he is now Chairman of the Department of Government and International Relations and Faculty Parliamentarian, Mr. Goodman worked as a consultant on Vietnamese Affairs to the US Department of State and the RAND Corporation and as Foreign Affairs Assistant for Thailand in the State Department. Mr. Goodman also served briefly as a Civilian Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans and Programs) of the United States Marine Corps. In 1974-75, Mr. Goodman will be a National Fellow at the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace at Stanford University.

Mr. Goodman is the author of Politics in War: The Bases of Political Community in South Vietnam (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1973) and edited Indochina in Conflict: A Political Assessment (Lexington, Mass: D.C. Heath, 1972). He has contributed articles on Vietnam, foreign policy, and problems of political change to a large number of books and journals, including ORBIS, Public Administration Review, Asian Survey, Pacific Affairs, Yale Review, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Southeast Asia, Naval War College Review, Asia Quarterly, Freedom at Issue, and the Journal of Comparative Administration. He is on the Editorial Board of Asian Survey and the International Advisory Board of the Korean Institute of International Studies. Mr. Goodman is a guest editorial page columnist for The Christian Science Monitor and has been a witness on WGBH-TV's The Advocates.

Born in 1944 in New York City, Mr. Goodman received a B.S. (with honours) from Northwestern University in 1966, an M.P.A. from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 1968, and his Ph.D. in Government from Harvard in 1971. He received a Harvard Book Prize in 1962, a letter of commendation from the U.S. Marine Corps in 1965, the Clarion DeWitt Hardy Public Service Medal from Northwestern University in 1966, and an Outstanding Young Leader Award from the Worcester Jaycees in 1973. He is a member of the American Political Science Association, the Association for Asian Studies, The American Foreign Service Association, and the Societe des Etudes Indochinoises of Saigon. He has traveled and lectured in England, Belgium, South Vietnam, Japan, Hong Kong, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia and Korea.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Freedom of
Information*

March 17, 1975

Dear Ms. Cheshire:

This is in response to your letter of March 3, 1975, received by this office on March 4, requesting (1) "a list of donors and amounts contributed to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House since its formation," and (2) "a list of expenditures by that Committee, along with the names and addresses of all persons to whom payment was made for any purchase or service."

You have stated in your letter that your request is being made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 522). As you may know, there is a substantial legal question as to whether the Act applies to the White House and/or component units thereof.

Notwithstanding this question, I am advised that at its recent meeting on March 11 the Committee approved the issuance of a comprehensive report of its activities for the period 1969 through 1974. The report of the Committee will also contain an appendix detailing the income and expenditures of the Committee for the previous five years. This report, which is customarily issued following a change of Administration, should contain all of the information you have requested with the exception of the addresses of persons to whom payment was made for any purchase or service.

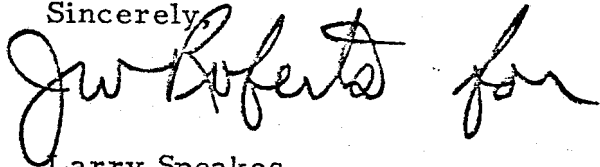
I am informed that the Committee has no separate list of the addresses of those to whom payment was made for either purchases or services. However, the Committee will be pleased to assist you in obtaining such information. The report, which has been in preparation for several months, is expected to be completed on or about April 1. We will make it available to you at that time.

With respect to existing documents, which are the basis for the Committee report, additional time is required to process your request. This is necessary because the Committee files are, in part, files



maintained by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, and the Committee must consult with NPS concerning the possible release of this data. Therefore, we are extending by 10 working days the time in which to respond to your request with respect to any existing records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jw Roberts for".

Larry Speakes

Assistant Press Secretary

Ms. Maxine Cheshire
The Washington Post
1150 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

bcc: Phil Buchen



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Freedom
of info.*

April 7, 1975

Dear Mr. Gordon:

Your letter to Mr. Rumsfeld of February 16, 1975, has been referred to this office for reply.

In response to your request, made under the Freedom of Information Act, for "the release to the press and to the public of the files of the Mead Esposito investigations," please be advised that the Act has been interpreted as being inapplicable to the immediate staff of the President and certain units of the Executive Office of the President, including units of the White House office. Moreover, the Act does not authorize the general release of such information to the press and the public, but only to the particular person making the request.

However, without reaching the question of the validity of your request under the Act, we have no objection to informing you that we are aware of no records of the type you describe in the possession of the White House. You, therefore, may wish to make your request directly to the appropriate investigative agencies. You should be further advised, however, that investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes are generally exempt from disclosure under the Act.

I regret that we cannot be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Reuben R. Gordon
2675 Ocean Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11229



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 7, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PHIL BUCHEN

FROM:

BILL CASSELMAN *BC*

Assuming that certain units of the White House are an "agency" for purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, I am concerned that those units may not be in full compliance with the Act. Specifically, we do not appear to be meeting, in all cases, the time limits for agency determinations. Nor, insofar as I know, have we met the requirement for an annual report (due March 1, 1975) or the compilation of an index publication (although the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents may serve this purpose).

I raised this matter some weeks ago with Jerry Warren and we have tentatively scheduled a meeting on this and related issues raised by FOIA and FACA. However, requests such as the attached would appear to be outside the scope of the Act and hence of lesser concern. The problem, of course, is to provide timely notice to this office of all FOI requests as soon as they are received. In this way we can separate those that fall within the Act from those which do not.

1
Enclosure



3/31

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

For urgent handling
by Bill Casselman.

Note date of
incoming letter.

Does this suggest,
we need more timely
identification &
referral of FOI
requests? P.



3/31
March 29, 1975

Dear Mr. Gordon:

Thank you for your recent letter.

Because your letter raises the question of Freedom of Information Act, I have referred your communication to the General Counsel's Office with a request that they respond directly to you.

Sincerely,

/s/

Donald Rumsfeld
Assistant to the President

Mr. Reuben R. Gordon
2675 Ocean Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11229

cc: Phil Buchen with incoming ltr.

DC:lh



To - The Attorney General

2675 Ocean Avenue
Brooklyn 29, N.Y.
Feb. 16, 1975

Mr. Donald H. Rumsfeld, Presidential Assistant
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rumsfeld:

I have read that Mr. Cannon, a long-time assistant to Gov. Rockefeller, has now been installed in a key position in Vice President Rockefeller's staff in Washington. I call to your attention an article "meade, the mob and the machine" published last year in the "Village Voice" of New York City. That article points out how Governor Rockefeller arranged for meade Esposito, Democratic boss of Brooklyn to meet the then Attorney General Mitchell at a time when Esposito was being investigated by the Internal Revenue Service and by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Subsequent to a series of meetings between Esposito and Mitchell, the investigation of Esposito



are discontinued. From a legal point of view the meetings between Rockefeller and Esposto and between Esposto and Attorney General Mitchell constitute overt acts in a conspiracy to kill the S. A. S. and S. E. C. investigations of men like Esposto who has been accused of selling judgeships and of pushing the fraudulent stock of Tipton's Inc.

Under these circumstances, President Ford will find that his administration runs the danger of the same sort of scandal that forced the resignation of President Nixon. So long as Rockefeller is part of the Ford administration, President Ford will live under a cloud of suspicion that men like Esposto, who has close ties with known Mafia leaders, has used Vice President Rockefeller to obstruct justice by arranging through John Mitchell to kill investigations of the selling of judgeships and the pushing of fraudulent stocks.

The only way that President Ford can free himself of that suspicion of condoning obstruction of justice, is to

order the publication of all documents and reports pertaining to the S. R. L. and S. E. C. investigations of Meach Esposito. Failure to do so would make President Ford guilty of misprision of a felony which charge was one of those levelled against President Nixon.

I call your attention further to an article of the espionage chapter of the U. S. Criminal code which states in effect the following:

"Any one who knowingly conceals material facts or falsifies information that comes under the jurisdiction of any department of the United States Government is guilty of the violation of the espionage laws."

Attorney General Levi can not refuse to release to the public all of the documents and reports submitted to the Justice Department in connection with the investigations of Meach Esposito without making himself an accessory after the fact to a conspiracy to violate the espionage chapter.

I therefore make formal request under the provisions of the Freedom of



of information have for the record to the press and to the public of the files of the grand Espoisto investigations.

I enclose copies of letters to Governor Rockefeller and to his Secretary of State Lomenzo revealing the mafia-style strong-arm, police state tactics used by Attorney General Lofgren to hide from the public, Governor Rockefeller's guilt in throwing a contract illegally to Ross Perot, the computer tycoon. As I have pointed out, Mr. Brezhnev and Soviet intelligents are fully and intimately acquainted with all the facts of the Rockefeller - Perot contract rigging deal. They also know that in spite of Rockefeller's confirmation by Rodino's House Judiciary Committee and by Chairman Cannon Senate Committee, he remains subject to prosecution for his half-million dollar gift to his friend Mr. Roman.

Mr. Rockefeller remains a cancer on President Ford's administration which must be cut out lest it be fatal to President Ford and to the American

system of government. President Ford is confronted with a crucial choice - either he force Mr. Rockefeller to resign as President Nixon did with Spiro Agnew or he face impeachment on charges of treason for concealing Rockefeller's part in the Meade Esposito conspiracy to obstruct justice.

As our former ambassador to Nato you are aware of previous penetrations of Nato by agents of the Soviet Union. There has been a similar penetration of our government by K. G. B. agents using as their conduits such friends of the mafia as Meade Esposito. In other words Mr. Khrushchev's prophecy "We will bury you" is being implemented by such corrupt mafia-dominated political bosses as Meade Esposito.

Sincerely yours,
Ruben A. Gordon, member
United Federation of Teachers A. F. L. - C. I. O.

Copy to The Village Voice



Jan. 31, 1975

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT FROM THE FILES OF THE C.I.A. IS RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC AS EVIDENCE OF MAFIA PENETRATION INTO THE F.B.I. AND THE WHITE HOUSE.

THE SOVIET LEADERS ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE FACTS OF THE ROCKY-PEROT CONSPIRACY.

* * * * *

Governor Nelson Rockefeller, Chairman
Committee on Critical Choices for Americans
22 W. 55th Street
N.Y. City

Dear Governor Rockefeller:

The enclosed letter of Feb. 27, 1971 to President Nixon confronts you with a critical choice - whether to align yourself with the corrupt federal apparatus of Mafia judges and U.S. Attorneys led by John Mitchell, or to join the ranks of citizens who are conducting a desperate battle against the Mafia-dominated federal agencies that control New York City like an army of occupation.

When Attorney-General Lefkowitz uses his personal bodyguard to assault citizens who visit his office seeking information, you have proof positive that Mr. Lefkowitz has made his choice - to become a Mafia stooge. Your Inspector General, Mr. Berlinger, who cleared you of charges of throwing a contract to Ross Perot has also joined Louis Lefkowitz's mob of corrupt officials who serve their Mafia masters by using police as musclemen against citizens who fight the police-state methods of Attorney-General Mitchell's Justice Department

I recently visited the office of Inspector General Berlinger to read the transcript of your testimony in the Ross Perot contract affair. After repeated efforts to deny me access to the official transcript which had been "released" to the press, Mr. Berlinger's deputy, Mr. Meyers, tore off his mask of legality by calling police to throw me out of the office.

The "Ross Perot Contract" and the Inspector General's whitewash job to cover up your guilt has now escalated to Nazi-style assaults on citizens who demand a grand jury investigation. Silence on your part to the strong-arm methods of your stooges, Lefkowitz, Berlinger, and Moe Nadjari makes you guilty as hell of an assault on the people of New York.

Yours truly,

Reuben R. Gordon



ASSOCIATED TEACHERS AGAINST CORRUPTION

The following letter is reproduced in the interest of the "People's Right to Know."

Copies will be circulated to all members of the Judiciary and to all law enforcement and investigation agencies - city, state, and federal.

2675 Ocean Avenue
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11229
October 16, 1967

John P. Lomenzo, Secretary of State
270 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10007

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to you at the request of Mr. Patrick Cea who conducted the recent hearing on the application of Mr. Joseph Colombo for a real estate brokerage license.

On October 4, 1967 the Daily News printed an article on your denial of a license to Mr. Colombo on the basis of his connection with Cosa Nostra leaders. The article further stated that you turned over copies of the minutes of the public hearing to Kings County District Attorney Aaron Koota who is conducting an investigation into Mafia activities in Kings County.

It is my understanding that minutes of public hearings of any bureau must be made available to any citizen who wishes to read them. I so informed Mr. Cea of whom I requested permission to read all the records of the public hearing on Mr. Colombo's application.

Mr. Cea did not deny my request. He requested, however, that I apply to you in writing explaining my interest in these records.

I am especially interested in the operations of District Attorney Aaron Koota's office. Governor Rockefeller in 1966 wrote the following in his report titled "Combating Organized Crime":

"While this publication is designed primarily to inform and inspire law enforcement officers and others concerned with the administration of criminal justice, I hope that every concerned citizen who has the opportunity will also study this report as a guide to effective support of the war on organized crime."

As a concerned citizen, who has been subjected to arrest and imprisonment by the police of Kings County acting in collusion with District Attorney Koota's office and with Judge Benjamin Schon and others of his colleagues of the Kings County judiciary, I am interested in the "procedures whereby society may strike back effectively at organized crime."

I have already written to Governor Rockefeller asking that he remove District Attorney Koota who seems to be conducting a war against citizens who file complaints with him. Instead of prosecuting the judges and clerks who have converted Kings County Courts into a protection racket for organized crime, he persecutes the citizens who complain about this Cosa Nostra penetration of our law-enforcement apparatus.

I have already cited the case of Judge Schor. Governor Rockefeller on November 2, 1966 asked the State Investigation Commission to look into the liquor license scandal in Queens involving the shake-down for which Judge Benjamin Schor was indicted by the Grand Jury.

Governor Rockefeller then said that the alleged "shake-down" involved "at least one city judge, private citizens and apparently members of the state legislature from the New York area."

In requesting this S.I.C. investigation Governor Rockefeller was responding to the challenge of his Democratic opponent for the governorship, Frank D. O'Connor, president of the New York City Council. Mr. O'Connor challenged the Governor to have the State Investigation Commission hold public hearings on the State Liquor Authority Scandal in Queens involving a city judge.

I have made repeated inquiries at the State Investigating Commission office regarding Governor Rockefeller's requested investigation. I have been told that no information can be given out. I should like to know whether the Governor has received any report from the S.I.C. on the investigation he requested.

As further evidence of my legitimate interest in the hearings of your office, I attach herewith a copy of my affidavit to Presiding Judge Fuldock of the Kings County Appellate Division. The affidavit requests that the Appellate Division conduct a public trial of Criminal Court Judge Herbert I. Sorin on charges of conspiracy to obstruct justice in the case of People v. Gordon, Docket No. B1174.

On the basis of this affidavit I believe that Governor Rockefeller should appoint a Morelands Act Commissioner to investigate the Courts of Kings County with special reference to their penetration by the Cosa Nostra.

I shall be happy to place at the Governor's disposal documentary evidence of alteration and obliteration of court records in the Kings County Criminal Court and in the Supreme Court. Reports of such tampering with court records were submitted by Judges Miles McDonald and John M. Murtagh to Presiding Judge Fuldock of the Appellate Division. These reports which are strongly affected with a public interest have remained buried in the files of the Appellate Division for the past two years.

I am sure that Judge Fuldock who happens to be of the same political party as Governor Rockefeller would open his files to



a Commission appointed by the Governor. I, as the complainant in this matter of tampering with court records, have been informed by the Clerk of the Appellate Division that the files of my complaint are sealed against me.

Although state law requires that records of public hearings be made available to the public, I have complied with Mr. Cea's suggestion to explain to you my interest in these files. I trust that you will instruct Mr. Cea to make available to interested citizens all records of your office as required by law.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Reuben R. Gordon

Copy: To Governor Nelson Rockefeller

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 11, 1975

Barry,

Please handle this as a
Freedom of Information
matter.

P.
Mr. B.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 7, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PHILIP BUCHEN

THROUGH:

JOHN MARSH *jm*
MAX FRIEDERSDORF ~~MF~~ *mf*

FROM:

VERNON C. LOEN *VL*

SUBJECT:

Request for information, under
provisions of the Freedom of
Information Act.

The attached is self-explanatory and is sent to you for appropriate handling. Attached is a copy of my response to Congressman Forsythe's original letter on behalf of Peter Ingerman. You will note this was sent to you for your information at that time.

Many thanks.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 14, 1975

*Freedom
of
Info.*

Dear Mr. Ingerman:

Your letter dated March 31, 1975 to Mr. Vernon C. Loen in which you requested certain information on the basis of the Freedom of Information Act has been referred to me for response.

The White House Office is not an agency for the purpose of this Act and therefore is not subject to its mandatory disclosure provisions. However, we have no objection to providing you with the information that you are seeking. In addition to Mr. Loen, your views have been "noted" by myself and members of my staff. No comments have been made thereon.

I trust that this is responsive to your request.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Peter Zilahy Ingerman
40 Needlepoint Lane
Willingboro, New Jersey 08046

