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Committee for the Re-election of the President

MEMORANDUM

October 24, 1972

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE HONORABLE CLARK MAC GREGOR

FROM:

ROBERT M. TEETER

SUBJECT:

Kentucky.

In 1968 the President received 44%, Humphrey 38% and Wallace 19% in Kentucky.

In 1968 the President trailed the average Republican vote by 8% statewide and ran far behind it in the Louisville area. This was probably due to Wallace's high percentage.

	1968			1968 Senate			Average Rep. Vote
	<u>Nixon</u>	<u>Humphrey</u>	<u>Wallace</u>	<u>Cook</u>	<u>Peden</u>	<u>Other</u>	
Kentucky	- 44	38	19	51	48	1	52
Jefferson Co. (Louisville)	43	41	16	56	42	2	59
Fayette Co. (Lexington)	50	33	17	58	41	1	56
Boyd Co. (Ashland)	45	43	13	49	50	1	49

Boyd County (Ashland) is heavily blue collar and almost 100% white. It has a young undereducated populus and had low turnout in 1968.

Our polls indicate that the President has a substantial lead and that Nunn is neck and neck with Huddleston.

	<u>Nixon</u>	<u>McGovern</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Margin</u>
June	60	24	16	+36
10/4	59	26	15	+33

	<u>Nunn</u>	<u>Huddleston</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Margin</u>
December 1971	38	37	30	+ 1
June DMI	37	34	29	- 1
10/4 DMI	40	41	19	- 1

Regionally, the President leads in all parts of the state. Nunn leads only in the eastern part of the state.

Determined to be an
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<u>10/4</u>	<u>Nixon</u>	<u>McGovern</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Nunn</u>	<u>Huddleston</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
*CD 1	50	36	14	31	56	12
CD 2	54	28	18	31	53	16
CD 3	53	52	15	38	44	18
CD 4	68	21	11	42	40	19
CD 5	66	23	11	51	37	11
CD 6	53	21	26	36	31	33
CD 7	62	22	16	48	24	29

*Attached is a Congressional District map.

The President also leads among all voter groups except Blacks. Nunn is particularly weak among ticket-splitters and is receiving only 76% of the registered Republican vote compared to the President's 91%.

The large undecided in the Nunn/Huddleston race comes primarily from middle-age voters and Wallace voters. Of those Wallace voters who stated a preference most were voting for Huddleston.

There are three major issues in Kentucky besides the war in Vietnam. They are mine safety, tobacco and drug abuse.

According to the Louisville Courier-Journal, Huddleston is trying to identify himself with the President's stand on drug abuse. Recently, the State adopted relaxed user and seller laws modeled on the recent federal drug statutes. One provision reduced first-time selling of drugs from a felony to a misdemeanor. Huddleston is in favor and Nunn opposed to this section of the statute. Huddleston has stated as recently as Monday that this is the President's feeling on the matter and that Nunn must be opposed to Nixon if he is opposed to the law.

The area the President is visiting is in poor mining country and is also the center for the U.M.W. hospital complex. (I believe it's called the Appalachian Regional Hospital System.) The people here are particularly sensitive to Black Lung and Nunn can benefit from the President having signed it into law recently. Also, the State has taken over the U.M.W. hospitals in the area because of debt problems and I am told there has been some kind of federal relief for these hospitals proposed. This is a very popular idea in eastern Kentucky.

Tobacco still remains a major cash crop in Kentucky. The poundage control system is supported by Nunn and is very popular among the raisers of tobacco in east and south Kentucky.

The Nunn/Huddleston race apparently is not exciting the voters to any degree. The figures have not significantly changed in almost a year. A closer identification between Nunn and the President will benefit Nunn's candidacy and hopefully give his campaign the impetus to pull ahead and win.

