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CABINET MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT Tuesday, July 1976 9:30 - 11:00 Cabinet Room

Mrh. Bowel

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

July 19, 1976

CABINET MEETING
Tuesday, July 20, 1976
9:30 a.m. (60 minutes)
The Cabinet Room

From: James E. Connor

I. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

- 1. <u>Background</u>: You last met with the Cabinet on June 29th when the entire agenda covered a report on your Puerto Rican International Summit meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to brief the Cabinet on matters relating to the Convention and on the status of our legislative proposals in the Congress.
- 2. Participants: List attached at Tab A.
- 3. Press Plan: Announcement to Press, David Kennerly Photo.

II. TALKING POINTS

- 1. I want to use our meeting today to discuss two broad areas that are of concern to us. First, I would like to have Rog Morton brief us on the status of Convention planning. Rog has brought several of his people with him who will explain to us the status of the delegate count, logistical activities related to the convention, and activities that are under way with regard to the Platform.
- 2. After that, I would like Jim Lynn to bring us up to date on the status of our legislative proposals in the Congress.
- 3. Rog, will you lead off. [Attached at Tab B are some talking points which you may wish to use in discussion of the subject of Cabinet officers testifying before the Platform Committee hearings in Kansas City when that issue comes up in the discussion.]

4. We have sent up to the Congress a number of items that are extremely important in our program for the American people. We have had a number of accomplishments over the past 2 years, and we intend to run on these accomplishments. But, in addition, there have been a great many important items that we have submitted to the Congress which the Congress has failed to act upon. We also intend to run on their inaction as well as our own accomplishments. I have asked Jim Lynn to identify the main areas that we intend to press the Congress on. I will be sending up a message later this week which will highlight these areas, and I hope you will all join me in pressing for quick action by the Congress on them.

Jim, ...

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Attendees for Cabinet Meeting, Tuesday, July 20, 1976

The President
The Vice President

Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger
Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld
Attorney General, Edward Levi
Secretary of the Interior, Thomas Kleppe
Secretary of Agriculture, Earl Butz
Secretary of Commerce, Elliot Richardson
Secretary of Labor, W. J. Usery, Jr.
Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare, F. David Mathews
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Carla Hills
Secretary of Transportation, William Coleman
Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, George Dixon (Secretary Simon is on vacation)

Counsel to the President, Philip Buchen
Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, Frederick B. Dent
Director of the Office of Management and Budget, James Lynn
Counsellor to the President, Robert T. Hartmann
Counsellor to the President, John O. Marsh, Jr.

White House/Executive Office:

James Cannon, Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs
Richard Cheney, Assistant to the President
James Connor, Secretary to the Cabinet
Max Friedersorf, Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs
Alan Greenspan, Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers
Ronald Nessen, Press Secretary to the President
Gen. Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
L. William Seidman, Assistant to the President for Economic Affairs
Edward Schmults, Deputy Counsel to the President
Michael Duval, Special Counsel to the President
David Gergen, Special Counsel to the President
Agencies:

Russell Train, Administrator, EPA Frank Zarb, Administrator, FEA

PFC:

Rogers C. B. Morton Stan Anderson Roy Hughes Bill Timmons

RNC:

Mary Louise Smith

(Note: Amb. Scranton is out of the country until July 26th)

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CABINET MEETING - TALKING POINTS ON PLATFORM

- There is, of course, a great danger that deliberations on the Republican Platform will result in extremely divisive fights on emotional issues. Such fights could impact on the nomination by alienating delegates who feel particularly strongly on certain issues. Also, if one side were to win several floor fights on issues, it could be an indicator of his strength for the nomination.
- Thus far, we have been very quietly developing a solid relationship with Governor Ray and other officials on the Platform Committee and their staff. It is critically important that all contacts with the Platform Committee be thoroughly coordinated.

Mike Duval of my staff is responsible for coordinating the presentation of Administration policy to the Platform Committee. Any position on specific planks and overall theme should be given to Mike, so that I can review these positions before they're presented to the Committee.

I will also make the final decision on whether Administration officials, including members of the Cabinet, testify before the Platform Committee hearings in Kansas City.

Bill Timmons and his assistants will be working on the politics of the Platform, including the critical task of lining up votes in the full Committee and its subcommittees.

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