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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 22, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

You are scheduled to meet with Mr. Paul Hall at 2:30 p.m. today. I am certain that he will bring up the Falcon carriers issue.

You recall that following your meeting with him last month, the Navy department agreed to reexamine the basic issue in this matter, i. e., civil service vis-a-vis SIU manning. The Navy has completed this reexamination and has decided that all alternatives to current arrangements in favor of returning to the prior status of SIU manning are not favorable. This is primarily due to the cost which would be approximately \$500,000 per ship per year.

Secretary Bowers has briefed Secretary Clements on the Navy's position and has stated that there is nothing to support a change in status favorable to Mr. Hall's union, other than a decision for purely political reasons.



Jack Marsh

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 21, 1974

MEETING WITH PAUL HALL

Thursday, August 22, 1974

2:30 p. m. (30 minutes)

The Oval Office

From: Philip W. Buchen

I. PURPOSE

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

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS PLAN

A. Background: See attached information supplied by Secretary Brennan. (Tab A)

B. Participants: Paul Hall

C. Press Plan: Press Photo

III. TALKING POINTS

1. I would like to hear of your concerns for and suggestions about:

(a) The economic situation and the critical inflation problem.

(b) Uniting the people of the country to gain wide support for initiatives which need to be taken to deal with vital current problems.

(c) Relationships between organized labor and the Department of Labor, as well as other government departments and executive agencies.

2. Cargo preference. (Tab B)

PAUL HALL

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

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

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

ISSUES

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

INTERNATIONAL

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

DOMESTIC ECONOMY

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

Strongly favors passage of the Energy Transportation Safety Act, which would require that 20 percent of the nation's petroleum imports be carried on U.S. flag ships. Hall says this bill would enable the U.S. to maintain some control over its oil imports, would reduce the deficit in

the ocean segment of our balance of payments, and thus would help stabilize the dollar; would protect American consumers of imported petroleum products through a cost-monitoring system supervised by the Secretary of Commerce.

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

POLITICAL

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

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

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