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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON
August 22, 1974

Handwritten initials: WRT

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALLS

TO.

- 1. Rep. John Rhodes ✓
- 2. Speaker Carl Albert ✓
- 3. Sen. Hugh Scott ✓
- 4. Sen. Mike Mansfield ✓

PURPOSE:

To discuss possibility for sine die adjournment by Friday, October 11th.

RECOMMENDED BY:

William E. Timmons *BT.*

BACKGROUND:

- 1. There is some movement within Congress to have a lame duck session in order to:
 - confirm Rockefeller
 - enact Health Insurance
 - enact Tax Reform
 - raise Members' salaries
 - clean up other legislation
- 2. Democrats do not want Vice President Rockefeller on the campaign trail and believe it in their advantage to tell the voters they haven't finished their work and will be back in session after elections.
- 3. A five week session in September-October appears sufficient time for Congress to complete its most important work.
- 4. There are some Members who may believe the President wants a lame duck session to handle key legislation.

TALKING POINTS:

1. John (Carl, Hugh, Mike) I hope you have a good recess during the Labor Day period.
2. I want to also request you to expedite the process for considering Nelson Rockefeller. He has made most of his courtesy calls to Senate Rules Committee and House Judiciary Committee Members.
3. I have received hundreds of invitations for speaking engagements, domestic and foreign travel, as well as proposals for meetings on next year's budget and plans for government programs. In order to consider these requests for long-term scheduling, it would be helpful to have some idea on when you expect to adjourn sine die. What's your best guess?
4. For my part, I would hope Congress could finish by Friday, October 11th.