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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . .

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 7, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM J. BAROODY, JR. P

SUBJECT: Conversation Luncheons

In connection with the various activities we will be undertaking under the auspices of the Public Liaison Office, I would like to recommend your consideration of a fairly frequent, low key series of what I would call "conversation luncheons" with top leaders from various segments of American society.

We experimented with this kind of approach at Defense when Mel Laird was Secretary and I attach for your information samples of the kind of people he invited for unpublicized, low key, free wheeling discussions.

If you agree, I would recommend that you authorize me to work out on a once or twice a month basis a small group of individuals that would come to the residence for an informal lunch and an opportunity to exchange views with you on various subjects of current interests.

The utility of such meetings I think is self evident. It would give you an opportunity to bring in small groups (say six to ten) of recognized thought leaders and scholars as well as leaders of organized segments of society, sit them down together and listen to their thoughts on problems and potential solutions to major issues confronting America and the world. It would also give us an ideal forum to bring in some very important people in society who don't fall into neat categories for our regularly scheduled meetings under the Public Liaison Office.

APPROVE W.J.B.
DISAPPROVE _____
OTHER: _____

Good idea / not rigid schedule.

GUESTS AT CONVERSATION LUNCHEONS

August 20, 1969

Dr. Kingman Brewster, President, Yale University
Mr. George Meany, President AFL-CIO
Mr. Theodore H. White, Author
Mr. David Miller, White House Fellow at Department
of Justice
Deputy Mayor Fletcher, Washington, D.C.

October 14, 1969

Dr. Eric A. Walker, President, Pennsylvania State University
Mrs. Shana Alexander, Editor, McCall's Magazine
Mrs. Mary Lasker, Philanthropist
Mr. John Gardner, Chairman, The Urban Coalition
Mr. Carl Rowan, Columnist
Mr. Ned Callan, President, Association of Student Governments

December 18, 1969

Mayor Walter Washington, Washington, D.C.
Rev. R. J. Henle, President, Georgetown University
Mrs. Mary McGrory, Columnist, Washington Star
Dr. John Coventry Smith, World Council of Churches
Dr. Frederick Seitz, President, Rockefeller University
Mrs. Walter Varney McGee, President, General Federation
of Women's Clubs

January 30, 1970

Mrs. Cynthia Wedel, President, National Council of Churches
Dr. Nathan Pusey, President, Harvard University
Mr. R. W. Fleming, President, University of Michigan
Mr. John D. Rockefeller IV, Secretary of State of West Virginia
Mr. John H. Johnson, Editor and Publisher, Ebony Magazine
Mr. Arthur E. Larkin, Jr., President and Director, General
Foods, Inc.
Mr. William Raspberry, Columnist, The Washington Post

March 20, 1970

Dr. Curtis W. Tarr, Director, Selective Service Commission
Mr. Gale Sayers, Chicago Bears
Mr. Kermit Gordon, President, Brookings Institution
Mr. Harry Reasoner, CBS Commentator
Mrs. Milo Yalich, President, Association of Junior Leagues
of America
Mr. Irving Feist, President, Boy Scouts of America

April 24, 1970

General Matthew Ridgway, Retired Army Chief of Staff
 Dr. Charles Stark Draper, Vice Director, MIT
 Instrumentation Lab.
 Mrs. Flaxie M. Pinkett, Civil Rights Leader, Washington, D.C.
 Mr. Hugh Downs, Host, The Today Show, NBC
 Mr. Duane Draper, President, Association of Student
 Governments
 Honorable George W. Ball, Attorney, Former Ambassador
 and State Department Official
 Dr. Lincoln Gordon, President, Johns Hopkins University

May 26, 1970

Mr. H. D. Doan, President, Dow Chemical
 Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, President, University of Maryland
 Mrs. H. Milton Davidson, National President, American
 Legion Auxiliary
 Dr. Seymour St. John, Headmaster, Choate School
 Mr. Bill Mauldin, Chicago Sun-Times Cartoonist
 Mr. Eric Sevareid, Commentator, CBS News
 Mr. Harry Golden, Author
 Miss Jennie Adams, Student, University of Washington

September 23, 1970

Honorable Dean Acheson, Former Secretary of State
 Mrs. Herbert P. Catlin, First Vice President, National
 Board of YWCA
 Honorable Richard C. Lugar, Mayor of Indianapolis
 Dr. Michael DeBakey, Baylor University College of Medicine,
 Heart Surgeon
 Mrs. Sylvia F. Porter, Financial Columnist, New York Post
 Dr. Harlan Randolph, President, Federal City College
 Mr. Howard K. Smith, ABC News
 Mr. Stuart Robinson, President of the Student Government,
 University of Maryland

November 10, 1970

Mr. Martin Castillo, Chairman, Cabinet Committee on
Opportunities for the Spanish-Speaking
Mr. Herman Kahn, President, Hudson Institute
Mr. Eric Hoffer, Longshoreman, Columnist
Dr. Robert F. Goheen, President, Princeton University
Mrs. Carolyn P. DuBose, Assistant Editor, Ebony Magazine
Mr. Thomas C. Adams, Editor-in-Chief, The Cavalier Daily,
University of Virginia
Mrs. Mary C. Cottone, National President, Ladies Auxiliary
to the Veterans of Foreign Wars
Mrs. Peggy Whedon, Producer, ABC "Issues and Answers"

February 16, 1971

Mr. B. R. Dorsey, President, Gulf Oil Corporation
Dr. John Weaver, President, University of Wisconsin
Mayor Henry Loeb, Memphis, Tennessee
Mrs. Bruce Benson, President, League of Women Voters
General (Ret.) Maxwell D. Taylor
Miss Sue Williams, a freshman student at Princeton University
(recommended by Herb Klein's office)
Mr. Edward Cole, President, General Motors
Mrs. Dorothy Height, National President of the National Council
of Negro Women

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 12, 1974

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: WILLIAM J. BAROODY, JR.
FROM: JERRY H. JONES
SUBJECT: Conversation Luncheons

Your memorandum to the President of September 7 on the above subject has been reviewed and approved with the following notation:

-- Good idea/not rigid schedule.

Please follow-up with the appropriate action.

Thank you.

cc: Al Haig
Warren Rustand