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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 9, 1974

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

Handwritten notes: 9/10/74, 2 called.

TO: Rep. Otto Passman (D-La)

DATE: Anytime on Monday, September 9th.

PURPOSE: To return his call to the President and allow him to personally praise the pardon decision for the former President.

RECOMMENDED BY: William E. Timmons *B.T.*

BACKGROUND:

- A. Passman is chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Aid. He is a close friend to the former President. He telephoned President Ford Monday morning and Timmons took the call in the President's absence from the city.
- B. Passman wants to personally tell the President what a courageous decision he made in pardoning Nixon. This action has Otto's total support.

TALKING POINTS:

- A. I'm sorry I was out of town when you called this morning. As you know, I had a speaking engagement in Pittsburgh.
- B. I felt my decision - although controversial - was the right one under the circumstances. I believe in the long run it will have a healing influence and help unify the American people.



Called again 9:30

Today.

T.



C. Otto, I'll need your personal help on holding foreign assistance appropriations at a responsible level. Until I have time to reformulate my own thinking on these programs we must continue the current programs at acceptable levels. Will you help?

