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1-15-75

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Bill Berouby / I

think this should be carefully  
check-out & before  
acting the NCOP should  
give no approval so  
there is no misunderstanding  
Talk with Don R. &

Bob H.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 13, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD

FROM: BILL BAROODY

SUBJECT: National Citizens Task Force on  
Work Improvement

Pursuant to our earlier conversations on this subject, I believe that we should proceed with haste in the establishment of a National Voluntary Citizens Committee on Productivity as a part of the Citizens Action Committee to Fight Inflation, but distinct from the WIN Program.

Such a Task Force would be part of the overall program similar to the "Gas Savers." The purpose of this Task Force would be to bring attention to the need for improvement of productivity on a national scale. Over the long term it is the best hedge against inflation and the best hope for improving the life quality generally.

Basically the goals of the Task Force would be three-fold: (1) To establish a nation-wide understanding and endorsement of the concept of productivity and the benefits derived therefrom; (2) To establish a nation-wide incentive program whereby a special appreciation, acknowledgement and/or rewards be given by the United States Government for significant advancements in the productivity cause or for productivity gains; (3) to seriously investigate the possibilities of establishing a national non-government private sector, labor management center for productivity. This private sector center would stress productivity in the private sector by working with firms, organizations, unions and associations and other organizations on direct demonstration projects, productivity councils, and training. It would also conduct a public awareness and information program, undertake research and development and consider the human and capital factors in productivity improvement.



It has been suggested that the National Commission on Productivity is already fulfilling that objective. However, this would not be a duplication of effort. Some things can be done, and are best done, through a privately organized, privately run, and independent body, outside of the necessary political constraints under which any publicly organized and operated agency must function. The two productivity organizations would complement and assist one another, each active and accountable within its own sphere.

I would very strongly recommend that Dr. C. Jackson Grayson, Jr. be named as Chairman of this Task Force, and that the Task Force have no more than two common members with NCOP. Membership on the Task Force should include representatives from private corporations, heads of major business associations and labor unions and several others not aligned with management or labor. Dr. Grayson more than any other person has been on top of the productivity issue nationally and is extremely capable and willing to devote his time and energies to the Chairmanship of this Task Force. Furthermore, he is well-known nationally. He is, in my estimation, the only reasonable choice.

I would suggest that at the upcoming meeting next Saturday with the Citizens Action Committee, Dr. Grayson be included, having an opportunity to meet with the President. He would at the conclusion of that meeting conduct a press conference in the White House announcing the establishment of this Task Force. Within no more than 30 days, all members of the Task Force would be selected and have a joint meeting with the President to kick off this effort.

Again, this is an excellent idea with a great deal of promise and long-range ramifications on the productivity side. I believe we should proceed with this immediately.

As you may be aware, representatives of the Citizens Action Committee already have been meeting to discuss this proposal, especially as it relates to the incentives program. Included in this January 9 meeting were the National Management Association, the National Association of Manufacturers, NCOP, National Quality of Work Center, United Steelworkers and others.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 15, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: BILL BAROODY

FROM: JERRY H. JONES 

The attached material was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation:

-- I think this should be carefully checked out and before acting the NCOP should give us approval so there is no misunderstanding. Talk with Don Rumsfeld and Bob Hartmann.

Please follow up with the appropriate action.

Thank you.

cc: Don Rumsfeld

