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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

January 23, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: JIM CAVANAUGH 
SUBJECT: Memorandums from Cap Weinberger



Cap Weinberger mentioned that during your recent meeting with him you expressed surprise at not having seen his State of the Union proposals on welfare and health insurance. Accordingly, I wanted to provide an explanation.

Cap's health insurance and welfare memos arrived over here in late December. Cap's recommendation was that the comprehensive health insurance plan from 1971 should be resubmitted.

Cap's welfare paper was in response to your request to develop two options, the income security program that he has been advocating as well as recommendations on how to reform the existing programs. Cap's memo advocated the income security program and did not include adequate attention to the other alternative that you had asked for.

Ken Cole and I both felt that you should not be burdened by reviewing these study papers as:

1. We had covered these subjects with you at our meeting with you and the Vice President on January 6;
2. Your decision in late December that no new programs would be proposed.

Because we were not at liberty to communicate that decision to our staff and to staff in the agencies, we continued to work on the program proposals with Cap and others until your evening T.V. address last week. We did go back to Cap two weeks ago to ask for another proposal on reforming the existing welfare programs. That paper has now been received from the Secretary and is being reviewed by Ash, Marsh and others before being sent to you in the next day or two.