

The original documents are located in Box C11, folder “Presidential Handwriting, 1/29/75” of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

MEETING WITH
REPRESENTATIVE AL ULLMAN

Wednesday, January 29, 1975

3:00 P. M.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. *688*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 29, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JACK MARSH *Jack*

Background:

In considering your meeting with Al Ullman there are several points that I think are helpful to keep in mind inasmuch as they may affect not only his own attitude but may influence what future action he may take. I refer specifically to the following.

1. This is his first major test as a Committee Chairman.
2. He assumes his duties under the shadow of Mills whose reputation we well know for leadership and legislative skill.
3. There is a division in his own party and in the Committee which he has not overcome.
4. There is no program nor does there appear to be one that is a viable alternative to your own.
5. Facing early Floor action, his situation is somewhat out of control.
6. Severe pressures confront him from constituent and regional interests such as Tip O'Neill, as well as political interests represented by the Caucus and the new members.
7. A way to save face should have appeal.
8. Al suspects he will have trouble overriding your veto on a combined package but he stands a better chance if he can separate the debt ceiling and the tariff suspension.

9. You will deal from a position of strength and it is essential to maintain the firm but subtle pressure you have applied.

In your discussion with him I would suggest the following talking points:

1. Without backing off your own action, that you indicate a willingness to search for common ground.
2. Get him to indicate what that common ground might be. To move in that direction, I would suggest a question for his assessment of how things presently stand.
3. I believe it would be helpful to get him to describe how he sees this moving on the Floor.
4. He will have a tendency to push his economic program and to push the energy program off to the side. It would be best not to let the tax package dominate the conversation but make him focus on the energy package.
5. Make him describe where he thinks we will be if they don't follow your lead on energy or if they suspend your authority.
6. Associated with this, draw out what is his plan and since he has no plan how can you trade off your present action and hope for action three months hence that may not materialize. Emphasize to him that it is to his advantage as well as your to use the pressure you will apply to get his Committee to move now on energy otherwise we will end up with a tax plan and no energy program.
7. Point out that your tariff proclamation really takes the heat off him and provides an umbrella for Committee action without their having to accept the onus of having originated these levies.
8. Get him to tell you what he thinks you should do in light of the critical need for action other than what you are doing.
9. Finally, I believe he will admit in a general way the need for action and that once he accepts this, I believe you can make a convincing argument for action you have taken as the best course when considered against other alternatives.

9. Finally, whatever counter proposal he might make raises the question of whether he can deliver. Consequently, what assurances can he give you that the Committee and the Congress will perform if you would try to make some accommodation.

In summary, I would suggest that rather than your agreeing to any modification, compromise or accommodation today, that you suggest to Al that he get back with you after consulting his own leaders and the Republican leadership with a hard plan that calls for action and one which he knows the Congress will accept. In any event, you will go with the 1 February levy and give consideration to alternatives that provide for action now along the lines you have suggested, but you can't agree to proposals that either defer or reject your energy program. I feel you must use the March and April levies as the continuing pressure for action.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *def.*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 28, 1975

MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE AL ULLMAN (D-ORE)

Wednesday, January 29, 1975

3:00-4:00 p.m. (one hour)

The Oval Office

From: Max L. Friedersdorf *mf*

I. PURPOSE

To comply with Chairman Ullman's request to meet for a discussion on the President's legislative requests on the economy and energy.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background:

1. The House Ways and Means Committee has voted 17-16 to request a closed rule with four hours debate on the combination Debt Limit/Oil Tariff Deferral Bill.
2. Chairman Ullman will go before Rules Committee on Tuesday, February 4, 1975, and the bill will be considered on the Floor next Wednesday, February 5.
3. The combination bill would delay for 90 days, the President's authority to impose additional tariffs on imported oil.
4. Following the bi-partisan leadership meeting on Tuesday, January 28, Chairman Ullman requested a private meeting with the President to discuss the legislation. Ullman indicated he may request a series of meetings to seek a compromise.
5. It is believed Ullman may suggest moving ahead with both the economic and energy tax cuts, while delaying the tax raising portions of the energy package. By passing just the "goodies," there would be a tendency by Congress to delay indefinitely the revenue raising tariff and excise taxes, resulting in an even larger deficit.
6. Representative Schneebeli has reportedly "caved" to Ullman on this approach, much to the chagrin of Representatives Conable, Waggoner and Landrum.

B. Participants: The President
Rep. Al Ullman
Max Friedersdorf (staff)

C. Press Plan:

Meeting to be unannounced. White House photos only.

III. TALKING POINTS

1. Al, I am delighted to meet with you again and discuss the economy and energy legislation.
2. I am sure you know how anxious I am to get moving on a good program, and I know you feel the same.
3. I would be interested in hearing your ideas, and then perhaps I could respond.

~~Von~~

Contains notes (handwritten) some of the
President -- some of others --- from 1/29/75
Meeting with Al Ullman

THE WHITE HOUSE

MR President. THE WHITE HOUSE

Al Ullman is in some trouble
with his Democrats on Ways & Means.
They feel his leadership & ability weak
(ie, his vote & defeat on separating
Green Amendment from Debt Ceiling)
Sam Ribbons & Joe Korth are openly
challenging his authority. Korth has
told me he will work hard to
push in the same direction we
are. (also he falls short of supporting
all specifics) Nonetheless the disarray
is working in our favor.

Bill

FEB

63¢
\$ 1.

MAR 1

\$ 1.

.60

APR.

\$ 1. = \$3.00 + .63

.60 = \$1.20 + .63

Quota / Allocation / Gas price (nation
ing.)
Two tier price
system.

New sources - end depletion / new methods

Decentral - working up.

Combination of rationing & price mechanism.
By May 1st. (House)

90 days
\$ 3.00
april 1st

TREATED AS HANDWRITING -- NO BLUE
CARD MADE.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 28, 1975

MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE AL ULLMAN (D-ORE)

Wednesday, January 29, 1975

3:00-4:00 p.m. (one hour)

The Oval Office

From: Max L. Friedersdorf 

I. PURPOSE

To comply with Chairman Ullman's request to meet for a discussion on the President's legislative requests on the economy and energy.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background:

1. The House Ways and Means Committee has voted 17-16 to request a closed rule with four hours debate on the combination Debt Limit/Oil Tariff Deferral Bill.
2. Chairman Ullman will go before Rules Committee on Tuesday, February 4, 1975, and the bill will be considered on the Floor next Wednesday, February 5.
3. The combination bill would delay for 90 days, the President's authority to impose additional tariffs on imported oil.
4. Following the bi-partisan leadership meeting on Tuesday, January 28, Chairman Ullman requested a private meeting with the President to discuss the legislation. Ullman indicated he may request a series of meetings to seek a compromise.
5. It is believed Ullman may suggest moving ahead with both the economic and energy tax cuts, while delaying the tax raising portions of the energy package. By passing just the "goodies," there would be a tendency by Congress to delay indefinitely the revenue raising tariff and excise taxes, resulting in an even larger deficit.
6. Representative Schneebeli has reportedly "caved" to Ullman on this approach, much to the chagrin of Representatives Conable, Waggoner and Landrum.

B. Participants: The President
Rep. Al Ullman
Max Friedersdorf (staff)

C. Press Plan:

Meeting to be unannounced. White House photos only.

III. TALKING POINTS

1. Al, I am delighted to meet with you again and discuss the economy and energy legislation.
2. I am sure you know how anxious I am to get moving on a good program, and I know you feel the same.
3. I would be interested in hearing your ideas, and then perhaps I could respond.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 28, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: WARREN RUSTAND *WR*
SUBJECT: Approved Presidential Activity

Please take the necessary steps to implement the following and confirm with Mrs. Nell Yates, ext. 2699. The appropriate briefing paper should be submitted to Dr. David Hoopes by 4:00 p.m. of the preceding day.

Meeting: With Congressman Al Ullman

Date: Wed. Jan. 29, 1975 Time: 3:00 p.m. Duration: 60 minutes

Location: The Oval Office

Press Coverage: White House Photographer

Purpose:

cc: Mr. Hartmann
Mr. Marsh
Mr. Cheney
Dr. Connor
Dr. Hoopes
Mr. Jones
Mr. Nessen
Mr. O'Donnell
Mrs. Yates

MAR 6 1975