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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 15, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JACK MARSH

FROM:

JAMES CONNOR



The President has reviewed your memorandum of July 14th regarding binary production and approved the following recommendation:

"Concur in the R & D approach only"

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Don Rumsfeld
Brent Scowcroft



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 11, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: NELL YATES
FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *M. G.*
SUBJECT: M.C. Richard Ichord (D-MO)

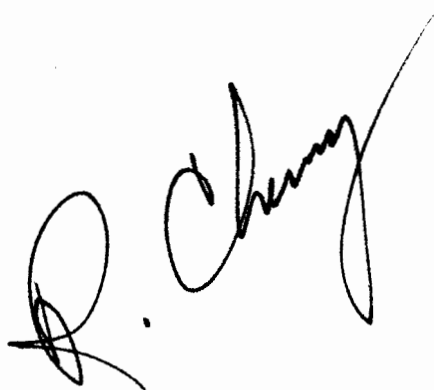
As you recall, Mr. Ichord tried to call the President yesterday.

The President tried to return his call this morning, but Ichord was unavailable.

The Congressman called this afternoon to stress the urgency of his speaking to the President before his Committee meets Monday at 10:30 a.m. I told him the President is out of town all weekend, and that he will not be available until after 9:30 a.m. on Monday.

Mr. Ichord will be in his office from 9:30 a.m., until he has to leave for Committee, awaiting the President's call.

Thanks, Nell.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Cheney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail that extends upwards and to the right.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 14, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: BRENT SCOWCROFT *BS*

FROM: JACK MARSH *JM*

Congressman Ichord of the Armed Services Committee has called in reference to a matter that will come up in the House Senate Conference on the Defense bill at 2:30 this afternoon. This matter relates to the question of binary production. Briefly the issues are:

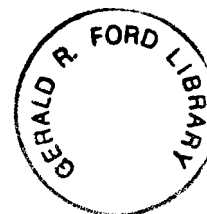
1. It is necessary to replace United States chemical warfare stocks which Ichord claims will be completely useless in five to ten years. This point is considered debatable by some.
2. Under the McIntyre language in the Senate bill, binary R&D and production is prohibited unless there is a Presidential certification it is in the national interest.
3. Without certification, this would stop the construction of a new production plant at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, which is essential to the replacement of our stocks.
4. The Soviets are moving rapidly ahead with their own program.
5. Ichord thinks he can get McIntyre to drop the R&D prohibition and he wants assistance in getting McIntyre to modify the new construction restrictions.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.8

SECRET

MR 04-45 #4; DOE-ctr 5/14/04

del NARA, Date 6/22/04



6. Ichord intends to introduce a House amendment today that provides:
 - a. A binary program for national safety purposes to offset Soviet capabilities.
 - b. The replacement of existing stocks with binaries on a one-for-one basis.
 - c. No increase over the one-for-one without Presidential certification.

Congressman Ichord suggests to avoid the certification requirements for new production, that you give McIntyre a call and urge that he adopt the House proposal. It should be noted that McIntyre is influenced to a great extent by his staff member, Hy Fine.

According to Brent Scowcroft, this is a very unsettled issue with a difference of opinion inside the Administration. It is a matter that is currently the subject of an inter-departmental study. NSC, State and OMB would recommend against your direct involvement, but passing the word that you favored the R&D but take no position on construction or production. Defense probably favors this view, but Army is pushing for a stronger Administration position in favor of binaries.

Brent and I would recommend the Conference be advised to go with R&D without certification and take no position on production or construction. Further, that you not endorse the Ichord position nor should we endorse the Army position which has been communicated by letter to the Committee.

MCJ

Concur in the R&D approach only.

Approve R&D, construction and production approach similar to Ichord plan.

Discuss further.

