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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF *M.F.*
SUBJECT: Representative Steve Symms (R-Idaho)

Congressman Steve Symms indicated to me today that he intends to endorse Reagan and predicts Senator Goldwater will do likewise.

Symms said he doesn't know what Jim McClure will do.

I expressed surprise and disappointment, but Symms said he was committed to Reagan "and the people of Idaho would not understand if I didn't endorse Reagan."

I attempted to dissuade Symms pointing out the analogy to our defeat in 1964; the President's ability to run as an incumbent, and appeal to a wider spectrum of the electorate.

Symms also referred negatively to the Vice President twice, and the advantage of an "independent" Reagan over an "appointed" President and Vice President.

I suggested that nothing exceeds the advantage of incumbency, but Symms demurred.