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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO

Senator James Pearson (Kansas)

224-4774

DATE

Before May 5 (Congressional District caucuses

follows

are being held on May 8)

RECOMMENDED BY

Rog Morton, Stu Spencer

PURPOSE

To solidify support for the President with the Kansas Congressional delegation and to insure their active involvement in turning out pro-Ford supporters for the Congressional District caucuses on May 8.

BACKGROUND

Kansas, a Convention state, will send 34 delegates to the National Convention. Currently, the President is in a strong position; however, support tends to be less active than is desired and somewhat complacent.

PFC Co-Chairmen: Bill Falstad, Carol Wiebe PFC Finance Chairman: C. Howard Wilkins

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

I appreciate your efforts on my behalf in Kansas.

How do you see the breakout of the Kansas delegates to the National Convention?

The next six weeks of conventions and primaries are crucial to our campaign and we can't let down our guard in any state. Kansas is especially important.

I hope I can continue to count on your support.

April 23, 1976

KANSAS

Delegates are selected by State and Congressional District Conventions composed of delegates selected at the county convention. Delegates to the county conventions are selected at the precinct caucuses.

The PFC was defeated in one county convention - Sedgwick - simply by local PFC leadership not doing their jobs. PFC was defeated decisively in Johnson County as explained to you by Cong. Larry Winn in the meeting on April 15. Johnson County has the largest number of Republican voters in the state. PFC did have the Reagan people outnumbered at the county convention; however, the PFC was defeated because of an intra-party fight within the county and the Reagan forces held solid during the whole process. Again, this indicates the weakness of the PFC organization in Kansas and the lack of strong active support by Cong. Winn.

Governor Bennett made an attempt to take the Kansas delegation to the convention uncommitted but the PFC was successful in stopping that.

34 Delegates

(In spite of this negative report, the current conservative projection is that the President will get 23 of the delegates and Reagan 11)