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MEETING WITH PAUL DAVID JOHNSON

FRIDAY - JULY 16, 1976

9:00 A.M. (10 minutes)

The Oval Office.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....


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**President Ford Committee**

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 457-6400

July 16, 1976

MEETING WITH PAUL DAVID JOHNSON

Friday, July 16, 1976  
9:00 a.m. (10 minutes)  
The Oval Office

FROM: JAMES A. BAKER III 

I. PURPOSE

To thank him for publicly committing to the President after having previously been uncommitted.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background: Johnson, 25, of Norfolk, is a graduate student at Old Dominion University. He is single. He is a past president of the Virginia Young Republicans and has been very active within that group.

He was elected a delegate from the 2nd Congressional District with the support of Reagan backers. In published interviews prior to now he had said he would remain uncommitted until Kansas City.

Even though he initiated contact with the PFC in offering to make this commitment, he has a history of being very unpredictable. He has a history of changing his position on party issues.

B. Participants: Jim Baker and Paul Johnson

C. Press Plan: Photo only.

III TALKING POINTS

- 1) I wanted you to know how much I personally appreciate your making this public commitment to our campaign at this time.
- 2) We're very encouraged by the momentum developing our way in Virginia and throughout the country, and project that after this weekend we'll be over 1100 on our count, so your endorsement is a significant one in terms of getting us close to the 1130 mark.
- 3) I've heard of your effective work as an organizer in the party so any support you can lend to our PFC operation at the convention will be much appreciated.
- 4) Betty and I will look forward to seeing you and working with you at the convention.