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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 4, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: DOUGLAS P. BENNETT
FROM: JAMES E. CONNOR *JEC*
SUBJECT: Members - Commission on
Postal Service

Confirming verbal advices the President reviewed your memorandum of October 2 on the above subject and made the following decisions:

For Chairman

✓ Gaylord Freeman

In the event he cannot serve, he approved John D. Harper, Richard C. Gerstenberg and Patrick E. Haggerty in this order.

For Members

✓ Kent Rhodes
✓ Hobart Taylor

In the event either choice cannot serve, he approved as alternates the following:

- #1 - John D. Harper
- #2 - Richard C. Gerstenberg
- #3 - Patrick E. Haggerty

cc: Dick Cheney

*Order signed 10/7/76 in Los Angeles
to R. Linder 10/8/76*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 2, 1976

Mr. President,

The Commission on Postal Service described in the attached memorandum has evoked an enormous amount of attention. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House each appoint two members and you appoint three as well as designate the Chairman. All appointments must be made by October 9th.

I understand the Speaker intends to appoint former Congressman Paul J. Krebs and Mr. David W. Johnson, a black labor union official in Philadelphia. It appears that Senator Eastland will appoint Mr. James Raddemacher, former President of the Letter Carriers Union, and a Mrs. Ruth Blakely, former assistant to Thurston Morton and now operating a small business in the District of Columbia. The composition of the Congressional appointees appears to be two directly from labor, Krebs who is pro-labor according to Mel Laird and a woman with little direct understanding of the postal service.

Mel Laird contends and we believe meritorously that one of your appointees should be a major user of the mails. Mel recommends Kent Rhodes, President and Chief Executive Officer of Reader's Digest who is generally felt to be one of the most knowledgeable people in the publishing industry regarding the postal service. Phil Buchen, Jim Lynn and I are concerned that you could be criticized for: (1) nominating the President of one of the largest users of the mail to a position from which his corporation could directly benefit (however, there is no legal conflict of interest); (2) nominating the head of the corporation for which one of your close friends works - Mel Laird; and, (3) Mel's position on the executive committee of the PFC. If you feel these concerns are valid, then I recommend Gaylord Donnelley, retired Chairman of R.R. Donnelley & Sons, one of the largest non-union printers in the country. He is regarded as having an excellent knowledge of the problems facing the Postal Service. In addition to Rhodes and Donnelley is Gaylord Freeman whose financial background as Chairman of First National Bank of Chicago would be valuable. He is on the Board of Time, Inc. and

has a knowledge of the Postal Service from a users standpoint, albeit indirect.

Dependent upon your decision respecting Kent Rhodes, I recommend the following alternative appointment groups:

Chairman	Freeman	Freeman
Member	Donnelley or	Rhodes
Member	Taylor	Taylor

Handwritten circled area around the right column with initials 'RH' and 'TA' next to Rhodes and Taylor respectively.

In the event Gaylord Freeman cannot serve, I recommend John Harper or Dick Gerstenberg for Chairman with Members the same as above.

In the event Hobart Taylor cannot serve, I recommend John Harper, Dick Gerstenberg or Pat Haggerty.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 2, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: RICHARD B. CHENEY

FROM: DOUGLAS P. BENNETT ^{DPB}

SUBJECT: Members, Commission on Postal Service
(PA - WAE)

On September 24, 1976 you signed the Postal Reorganization Act Amendments of 1976 which included a provision establishing the Commission on Postal Service. This Commission is to be composed of seven members; three members appointed by the President and two members each by the president pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Senate and the House shall each appoint an individual who is a member of the work force of the United States Postal Service. The Postmaster General of the United States and the Chairman of the Postal Rate Commission shall serve as ex officio members of the Commission without the right to vote.

The Commission has been established to study the problems facing the U.S. Postal Service and is to make its recommendations (no later than March 15, 1977) to the President and the Congress.

Jim Lynn feels that the findings of this Commission may be tantamount to a resolution of the problems facing the postal delivery system in the United States.

The Commission, though not limited to any particular subject(s), shall study the public service aspect of the Postal Service:

1. from a revenue expected/cost incurred analysis;
2. to determine the extent and manner federal appropriations are required;
3. to evaluate the effectiveness of the rate making procedures and recommend any necessary changes;
4. to evaluate current and future service requirements; and
5. to evaluate the role of electronic fund transfers and communications techniques on mail volume and revenues.

In our discussions with Jim Lynn, the following professional backgrounds were considered important elements respecting the composition of the Commission:

1. Chief Executive Officer of a major corporation;
2. Finance/Economics;
3. Labor/Management Relations;
4. Research/Technology/Business Product Development;
5. Executive Branch experience; and
6. User experience.

Representing these areas, the following individuals are suggested:

For Chairman (Select One):

Gaylord Freeman--66 years old; A.B. Dartmouth College, LL.B. Harvard Law School. Until his recent retirement, he was Chairman, First National Bank of Chicago and now serves as a Member, National Center for Productivity and Quality of Working Life. He is a Republican.

John D. Harper--66 years old; B.S. University of Tennessee. Until his recent retirement, he was Chairman, Aluminum Company of America and now serves as a Member, Communications Satellite Corporation. He is a Republican.

Richard C. Gerstenberg--66 years old; A.B. University of Michigan. Until his recent retirement, he was Chairman, General Motors Corporation, and was a Member, President's Labor-Management Committee. He is a Republican.

Patrick E. Haggerty--62 years old; B.S. Marquette University. Until his recent retirement, he was Chairman, Texas Instruments and was a Member, U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors (1/5/71 - 10/1/73). He is a Republican.

DECISION: For Chairman:

I recommend Gaylord Freeman. In the event he cannot serve, I recommend John D. Harper, Richard C. Gerstenberg or Patrick E. Haggerty in that order.

MR 7 Agree _____ Disagree

or

Appoint _____

For Members (Select Two):

Hobart Taylor, Jr.--55 years old; A. B. Prairie View (Texas) State College, J.D. University of Michigan Law School. Since 1968, he has been a Partner with Dawson, Quinn, Riddell, Taylor & Davis (Washington, D. C.) and served in the Johnson Administration in several capacities including Associate Counsel to the President. He is on the Board of Directors of Westinghouse Electric Corp., Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company and Standard Oil Company (Ohio). He is a black Democrat.

Kent Rhodes--64 years old; B.S. Dartmouth College. He is currently President, Reader's Digest Association and is a Republican.

Gaylord Donnelley--66 years old; A. B. Yale University. Until his recent retirement, he was Chairman, R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company (Chicago). He is a Republican.

DECISION: For Members (Select Two):

MR7
MR7
Appoint Gaylord Donnelley
or
Appoint Kent Rhodes
and
Appoint Hobart Taylor

In the event either choice cannot serve, I recommend as alternates:

- 1 Appoint John D. Harper
- 2 Appoint Richard C. Gerstenberg
- 3 Appoint Patrick E. Haggerty

or
Appoint _____
