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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF

M.L.F.

J.R.H.

Senator Percy called in from Illinois today with a status report after an intensive swing around the State.

Percy said the Butz matter has bottomed out and in southern Illinois where Butz is very popular; there is deep seated regret about the departure, but no intention to take it out on the President. Percy believes any political damage is very minimal.

In Chicago, Percy reports, the Eastern European flap has died down. Percy said he has talked to Polish, Estonian, and Lithuanian leaders and editors, and finds that the controversy has subsided.

Feedback on the President's meeting with the ethnic leaders and ensuing statement was excellent, Percy reports.

Percy believes the President's campaign in Illinois is back on the ascent, and the Senator will join the President in Joliet for the whistlestop tour on Saturday.