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June 16, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. RICHARD B. CHENEY

FROM:

TERRY O'DONNELL

SUBJECT:

First Family Use of the SEQUOIA

Bill Gulley talked to me about the First Family use of the SEQUOIA and asked for some guidance.

His problem is this: Steve or Susan have called on very, very short notice to request the SEQUOIA. Usually this is no problem; however, it would be helpful for the Military Office to be able to alert the crew a short time in advance.

The problem comes in the case of conflicts. The President has approved the use of the SEQUOIA by Cabinet Members, senior White House staff, etc. Bill Gulley's problem is what to do if a First Family member asks for the boat at the last minute and it is already committed to a Cabinet Member, a group of Congressmen hosted by the Congressional Office, or a senior Staff member of the White House who has invited a group.

We can do one of two things: (1) Either pre-empt the boat for a First Family request or (2) Advise Steve, Jack or Susan that the boat is already booked and is not available for that evening.

Obviously, the President should decide which policy he prefers. It would be helpful if you discussed this with him to (1) alert him to the fact that we will ask Susan and Jack and Steve to try to let the Military Office know a little in advance when they wish to have the boat and (2) get the President's desires as to whether or not there should be pre-emption rights by the First Family.

