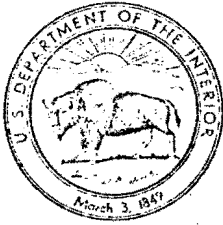


The original documents are located in Box 119, folder “Hathaway, Stanley” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

July 25, 1975

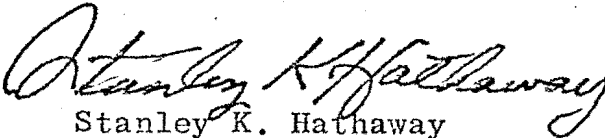
Dear Mr. President:

It is with deepest regret that, for reasons of personal health, I must ask you to accept my resignation.

To have been selected to become your Secretary of the Interior has been a singular honor, and I am deeply grateful for the trust and confidence you placed in me. Your Administration has achieved great progress in restoring the Nation's morale and sense of purpose, and I know we will continue to prosper under your leadership.

I extend to you and your family my heartfelt wishes for success in the future.

Sincerely,


Stanley K. Hathaway

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 25, 1975

Dear Stan:

I have your letter, and it is with my deepest regrets that I accept your resignation as Secretary of Interior, effective upon the appointment and qualification of your successor. In so doing, I want you to know that I fully understand and sympathize with the health considerations which have prompted your decision.

Needless to say, I would have much preferred that you felt able to continue fulfilling your challenging and strenuous responsibilities at Interior. I am confident that the exceptional skill and genuine concern for the well-being of our fellow citizens which have always marked your public career would have served the Nation well in that capacity.

As you return to private life, I want to express my appreciation for your outstanding work on behalf of the Nation and our Party and for your friendship and support and many personal kindnesses. Betty joins me in extending to Bobbie and you our warmest good wishes for your health and every future happiness.

With warmest personal regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Stanley K. Hathaway', written in a cursive style.

The Honorable Stanley K. Hathaway
Secretary of Interior
Washington, D. C.

HATHAWAY QUESTIONS

7/25

1. You said two days ago that the Secretary was not going to resign. Didn't you know then that he planned to submit his resignation today? *No, we did not. He was awaiting results of tests and additional medical consultation.*
2. When did you find out that he was going to resign?
About 5 o'clock last night.
3. Did the Secretary personally inform the President of his decision? *No. A member of Hathaway's staff (Huge DUNCAN) called White House (Dick Cheney) and informed him of Hathaway's decision to resign and later a letter of resignation was delivered. Letter is dated today but received last night.*
4. Has Dr. Lukash given the President a medical report on the Secretary? *Dr. Lukash has talked to Hathaway's physician and has relayed medical information to the President on the Secretary's condition.*
5. Was the Secretary's illness in any way related to White House pressure that he accept William Banowsky as under secretary?
There was no W. H. pressure on Hathaway to accept Banowsky. Judgement as to the causes of Hathaway's illness should be left to the doctors.
6. What can you tell us about Mrs. Hathaway? Is she in the hospital also? *I have no information to give you on that.*
7. Who has been handling this matter for the President?
A number of people on the staff. If pressed - say Dick Cheney.
8. Why, if the President talked Hathaway out of resigning on July 15, did he submit his resignation last night?
What happened in the ensuing days to change the Secretary's mind? His letter should answer that. Anything beyond that will have to come from Hathaway.
9. Why was Banowsky's courtesy calls to Senators' offices abruptly terminated two days ago? *You'll have to address that question to Banowsky.*
10. Did the FBI find something in Banowsky's background that would rule him out as Under Secretary? *No.*
11. Isn't it true that Hathaway didn't want Banowsky as Under Secretary and that the White House ordered Hathaway to accept him? *No. The President has not nominated anyone for U.S. A number of people have been considered. As a general rule, the Pres. makes nomination only after consultation with the cabinet members. That procedure was being followed in this case.*



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

July 22, 1975

Secretary of the Interior Stanley K. Hathaway said today doctors at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md., have advised him he is suffering from moderate depression brought about by physical exhaustion and mental fatigue,

~~_____~~

Hathaway said he had himself decided that he required treatment and notified President Ford July 15. The White House physician, Admiral William Lukash, recommended the Secretary go to the Bethesda hospital for observation and treatment. He was admitted at approximately 4:30 p.m., July 15.

~~_____~~

Since his hospitalization, Hathaway has visited with members of his family and close friends. He also has been conferring regularly with Interior Department aides.

A hospital spokesman said today that: "Secretary Hathaway is progressing well and is in satisfactory condition."

#



File

HATHAWAY

Did the White House pressure Hathaway to take Banowsky as Undersecretary of the Interior?

When, how and by whom was choice of Banowsky made?

Did his selection have anything to do with Reagan and politics?

What were his qualifications?

Why did he withdraw?

Who will replace him? (Is Hathaway's choice Deputy Undersecretary William D. Lyons?)

What is Hathaway's condition?

When is it expected he will be released?

Or will he resign?

Do Hathaway and Banowsky's nomination mean the President is subordinating environmental concerns in administration of the Interior Department?

7/24/75 JBS

April 8, 1975

TALKING POINTS

1. Stan Hathaway served for two four-year terms as Governor of Wyoming, during which he compiled an extensive and distinguished record in serving the interests and balancing the objectives of the people of Wyoming. He has had to confront many of the problems we now face nationally such as proper balance environmental protection and the development of energy resources. Wyoming is now recognized as one of the most progressive States in the Energy and Environmental fields.
2. Major accomplishments included:
 - He developed and sponsored Wyoming's Environmental Quality Act of 1973 (he personally wrote much of it), creating one of the Nation's first integrated State environmental agencies - the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.
 - During his term, Wyoming became one of the first States to enact a surface mining reclamation law. This law, initially passed in 1969, was then strengthened in 1971 and 1973 -- one of the toughest in the country.
 - Wyoming established its own air quality standards in 1967 -- before the Federal government established national standards. Here again, Wyoming standards are among the most stringent in the country.
3. Stan has also made an important contribution nationally in his two and one-half years as Chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment of the National Governors' Conference.
4. Stan Hathaway has intimate knowledge of the Interior Department's programs. As is the case in many Western States, the Federal government owns about 48% of the total land area of Wyoming -- including national forest lands, national parks and other public domain lands.
5. A recent survey of the Nation's Governors by the National Governors' Conference reflected that the number one issue they face is growth policy and land use followed closely by the balance between environmental goals and energy demands.

6. Interior Department programs are important to all the Nation, but because of the Federal role in ownership and management, they are particularly important to the Western States. Close working relationships with the Governors is critical and Stan has the confidence of these Governors which will enable him to do the job.
7. But most importantly, his first hand experience and perspective will provide a sound basis for achieving the best possible balance among our shared national objectives.

Question:

It is hard to imagine that the President could have selected a man for the Interior Department job that has a poorer record with respect to the environment and conservation than Governor Hathaway. Does the President really expect him to survive the confirmation process?

Answer:

We have every reason to expect that the confirmation process will serve to highlight some of the many positive contributions to conservation and the environment that Governor Hathaway has made during his 2 terms as Governor of Wyoming.

For example, during his tenure:

- the Wyoming Air Quality Act of 1967 was passed which established an Air Quality Council as a division within the State Department of Health. Wyoming air quality standards were put into effect before federal standards. Those standards continue to be among the most stringent in the country.
- In 1967 a State Department of Recreation was created which was very instrumental in improving the state park system and including the development of new parks and recreation
- In 1968, Wyoming became one of the first states in the West to receive federal approval of its water quality standards. In 1974, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency gave Wyoming authorization to administer its own water quality discharge permit program.
- In 1969, Wyoming became the first state in the Rocky Mountain Region to enact a surface mine reclamation law. The laws was made more stringent in 1971 and again in 1973. The enforcement provisions of this law are as strong, and in some cases stronger, than the surface mining legislation now being considered by the Congress.
- Under his guidance and sponsorship, the Environmental Quality Act of 1973 was brought to the Wyoming legislature and approved in nearly its original form. The Act established the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality with 3 divisions concerned with air, water and land. This Act made Wyoming one of the first states in the nation to have an integrated environmental agency
- In 1973, he asked the Wyoming legislature to establish a land use study commission which, when approved, prepared Wyoming's first land use planning program for legislative action. The Commission's proposals were passed with only minor changes by the 1975 legislature.

Also, Governor Hathaway served for 2½ years as Chairman of the Governors Conference Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Management. This committee has a distinguished record for responsible positions on environment, natural resources and energy matters.

April 8, 1975

FUTURE OF INTERIOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Question:

At the time the President selected Governor Hathaway for Interior Secretary, was he really aware that Interior is responsible for many important environmental and conservation programs? Is the future outlook for those programs rather dismal?

Answer:

Of course the President is well aware of the environmental and conservation program responsibilities of the Interior Department. Those programs include, for example, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the management of millions of acres of public domain lands are in the forefront of the Federal efforts to protect the environment.

Those programs are important to the whole Nation and particularly to the West. Governor Hathaway is familiar with many of those programs because of their critical importance to his home state. We have every reason to believe that his first-hand knowledge of these programs will put him and the Department in an excellent position to carry forward the environmental and conservation programs in a very effective way.

IMPLICATIONS OF HATHAWAY'S PAST POLICIES

Question:

As Governor of Wyoming, Stanley Hathaway consistently joined with oil, coal and other business interests in development at the expense of the environment. He favored building a jetport and a national park, opposed designation of wilderness areas, promoted surface mining, and favored the use of poisons to kill wild animals. Are these the kind of policies that led the President to select Hathaway for the Interior Secretary job?

Answer:

The President has made clear his views that we must continue pursuing our national goal of improving environmental quality. He has also pointed out that we must achieve the best possible balance among our objectives for improving the environment and our objective for providing adequate energy and strong national economy. The key is finding the right balance. The President has discussed this basic philosophy with Governor Hathaway and has every reason to believe that the Governor would follow a carefully balanced approach in administering the important programs of the Department of the Interior. These programs, as you know, include many that are important to the President and the Nation's objective of environmental quality.

Also, you should recognize that Stan Hathaway has been serving as Governor of Wyoming where he served the interests of the people of Wyoming for two full terms (8 years). He has not been charged with carrying out the responsibilities of Secretary of the Interior. His distinguished service in the past provide every reason to expect that he will implement the broad mandates of the Interior Department in a balanced and effective way.

April 8, 1975

COAL DEVELOPMENT

Question:

During his terms as Governor, Governor Hathaway leased state lands for coal development and demonstrated repeatedly that he was a pawn of the oil and coal industry which is seeking to destroy Wyoming and other parts of the West. Do you expect him to follow the same policy as Secretary of the Interior?

Answer:

During his tenure as governor and his service as Chairman of the Governors Conference Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Management, the Governor has been a leader in promoting a sound national energy policy.

A sound policy requires greater use of the energy resources that are available domestically rather than increasing our reliance on imported oil.

The President's energy program calls for double coal production in the United States by 1985. The Congressional Democrats' energy plan calls for even greater production. This means that responsible development of our coal resources in the United States, including those in the West is necessary in the national interest.

Governor Hathaway's knowledge of the Western state coal resources and of the problems associated with responsible development of these resources will make it possible for him to develop approaches that balance the need for increased coal production with other objectives, including avoidance of unnecessary development.

GOLDEN EAGLES VERSUS FORMER GOV. HATHAWAY

Q: Environmentalists claim that Gov. Hathaway allowed massive slaughter of golden eagles while he was Governor of Wyoming? Why wasn't this factor taken into consideration in appointing Hathaway to head a Department concerned with conservation of wildlife.

A: I think the fact of the situation ought to be closely examined. First, as Governor, Mr. Hathaway followed federal laws and regulations in all of his policies. In the early part of his administration, Western state ranchers were permitted to take golden eagles during the lambing season if their requests to do so were approved by the Governor of the state. The governors of several western states received such applications and did act favorably on them. Governor Hathaway designated several counties in which eagles could be hunted under the restricted conditions from 1967 through 1970. In 1970, Interior Department studies revealed that coyotes, rather than eagles, were the major predators of sheep herds. After 1970, Governor Hathaway says there were no requests from ranchers to hunt eagles, and no permits for such hunting were authorized by him, from then until his term expired in January of 1975. The Governor, I am told, feels his administration did a great deal to curb hunting of eagles in Wyoming, which in earlier years, had few or no restrictions on hunting of eagles.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. R. ...' or similar, located at the bottom right of the page.