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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 31, 1976

*James R. Nessen*

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DICK CHENEY

THRU:

JACK MARSH  
MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM:

CHARLES LEPPERT, JR.

SUBJECT:

Rep. John J. Rhodes

Rep. John Rhodes called for assistance in setting up a meeting with the President and the chief executives of the Hearst Newspapers. The purpose of the meeting is explained in the attached letter of John Rhodes.

Rhodes informed me that the Board of Directors are planning to meet on September 24, at which time they may reach a decision on whom they will support. Rhodes strongly recommends that the President meet with the chief executives around the middle of September but that the President decide the time and place.

JOHN J. RHODES  
1ST DISTRICT, ARIZONA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2310 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

ALMA A. ALKIRE  
RICHARD ROBERTS

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
6040 FEDERAL BUILDING  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85025

ROBERT J. SCANLAN

## Office of the Minority Leader

United States House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

H-232, THE CAPITOL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

JOHN J. WILLIAMS  
DENNIS J. TAYLOR  
J. BRIAN SMITH  
CLARA POSEY

August 31, 1976

President Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President:

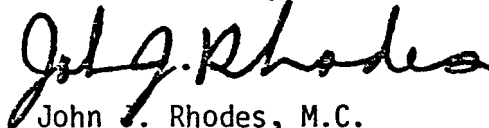
Joseph Kingsbury-Smith delivered the enclosed letter on August 31. As you will notice, Mr. Kingsbury-Smith would like you to attend a dinner.

He informed me that the reason is for the top executives of the Hearst Newspapers to meet with you in a "relaxed atmosphere." It seems that they already have met with Governor Carter and will soon decide which candidate their newspapers will support for the presidency. They may do this as early as September 24, but probably not until the middle of October.

I suggested a White House meeting. Mr. Kingsbury-Smith felt this was not the type of atmosphere his officials would desire - they want it to be a "relaxed atmosphere." I then suggested a dinner on the Sequoia. He thought that would be fine.

So, you may pretty well take your choice as to when and where to meet with these people as long as it is informal. Needless to say, I strongly recommend some such arrangement be made.

Yours sincerely,



John J. Rhodes, M.C.  
Minority Leader

JJR/vg

THE HEARST NEWSPAPERS  
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS  
1701 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006  
TEL. CODE 202 - 238 6920

National Editor

Vice President and Director  
The Hearst Corporation

August 31, 1976

The Honorable John J. Rhodes  
Minority Leader of the  
House of Representatives  
2310 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Congressman:

With reference to the matter we discussed when you so kindly consented to receive me today, the Hearst chief executives attending the proposed dinner would be:

Mr. John R. Miller, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hearst Corporation; and Mrs. Miller.

Mr. Randolph A. Hearst, Chairman of the Board, the Hearst Corporation; and Mrs. Catherine Hearst.

Mr. Frank Massi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors; and Mrs. Madeline Massi.

Mr. William Randolph Hearst, Editor-in-Chief of the Hearst Newspapers and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Hearst Corporation Board of Directors, and Mrs. Austine Hearst.

Mr. Frank A. Bennack, Jr., Executive Vice President of the Hearst Corporation and General Manager of the Hearst Newspaper and Mrs. Luella Bennack.

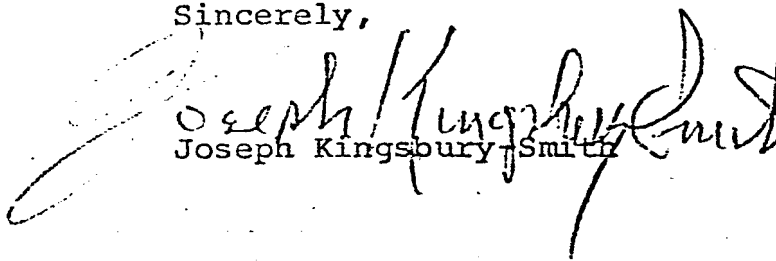
The dinner would be held in the house that my wife, Eilee and I occupy in Georgetown. Located at 1416 33rd Street, N.W. the house is owned by and rented from Senator Hatfield. It has a closed in garden extending from front to back on one side and an alley in the rear, thus lending itself to the necessary security measures.

We would hope that Mrs. Rhodes and you would attend the dinner, and anyone that our guests of honor would like to have accompany them. The dinner could, of course, be a stag dinner if that was considered preferable.

Congressman Rhodes  
August 31, 1976  
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I shall be most grateful for any consideration you may be disposed to give this matter, and I deeply appreciate your kindness in letting me discuss it with you.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph Kingsbury Smith

JKS/kh