

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 27, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN

THROUGH: MAX FRIEDERSDORF M.F.

FROM: BOB WOLTHUIS

As I listened to the press conference this morning there was a great deal of comment on the Reagan charges about U.S. defense posture. The President's answers reflected his concern that the American people, our allies abroad, and our opponents not be deceived as to what the American military power really is. There is a classic case to back up this kind of answer and logic which might be helpful in any future questions.

In the 1960 campaign the Democratic candidate charged that the U.S. suffered from a missile gap. This became a wide-spread issue and there is some evidence that it did mislead both our allies and our opponents which led to some reckless Soviet policies in Cuba. After the election the missile gap charge proved to be blatantly false. The President could say that he will not and cannot tolerate a repetition of that kind of mistake.



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October 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH

FROM: BOB WOLTHUIS

SUBJECT: Pete McCloskey Post Debate Comments
re Mayaguez Report

I talked to Pete a few minutes ago. He will gladly do a post debate press interview regarding the Mayaguez Report.

During the day today Pete can be located at A/C 415-326-7383. At 6 P.M. San Francisco time he will be at 3580 Jackson, San Francisco and then go to John Sutro's residence for the debate. Afterward he will go to the St. Francis Hotel for the rally. He is also scheduled to do a post debate interview of KGO radio with a Democratic Congressman.

The advance, press and NSC people should go to Pete as soon as possible to get this arranged. He is very willing.

~~cc:~~ Max Friedersdorf