The original documents are located in Box 18, folder "President - Briefing Papers by Ron Nessen (6)" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD WHITCOMB WCKT-TV - MIAMI, FLORIDA Monday, March 1, 1976 11:30 a.m. (30 minutes) The Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen

I. PURPOSE

To film a 30-minute interview with Richard Whitcomb, WCKT-TV (NBC) anchorman and newsman in Miami, Florida.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

This is the latest in a series of TV interviews you have done in the Oval Office for broadcast in key primary states.

This 30-minute interview will be edited into six-minute segments to run each evening, starting this week, on WCKT's 6:00 p.m. local news broadcast. There will be one break during the filming of this interview. Mr. Whitcomb will do the first six minutes, and then take a short break, so the film can be taken to the airport and shipped to his Miami station in time for Monday's broadcast. He will then continue the interview straight through.

The interview will be similar to the one you did with Ralph Renick. Mr. Whitcomb is one of Mr. Renick's competitors and will cover many of the same topics, such as the economy, Reagan, the Florida primary, the Cuban situation and possibly Nixon.

Mr. Whitcomb is a former Navy man who was a broadcaster in Hawaii before moving to Miami. He has been a newsman in Miami for the past ten years and knows the area well. He was raised on an Indian reservation by his parents and is interested in Indian affairs and problems of other minority groups.

B. Participants

The President Richard Whitcomb Ron Nessen Bob Mead

C. Press Plan

Interview to be acknowledged. An official White House transcript will be made. A White House photographer will be present. Photo to be autographed by the President and sent to Whitcomb as a memento of the occasion.

III. TALKING POINTS

A Florida briefing book has been presented to the President and will be updated as needed.

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH FLORIDA NEWSPAPERS

Wednesday, March 3, 1976 11:30 a.m. (60 minutes) The Roosevelt Room

From: Ron Nessen RH1/

I. PURPOSE

2

To be interviewed by editors and reporters of Florida daily newspapers.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

 A. <u>Background</u>: Following your February 18 interview with four key Florida news organizations, a number of other Florida newspapers also submitted requests for interviews. Invitations were extended to the remaining 42 Florida dailies and to <u>Diario</u> <u>Las Americas</u> to participate in this meeting. (An offer through the state press organization for a representative of the weeklies to attend was declined.)

Following the interview with you and time to file their stories, the participants will be briefed at 2:30 p.m. by Alan Greenspan and Don Rumsfeld.

 B. <u>Participants</u>: The 16 editors and reporters, representing 14
 newspapers, are listed at Tab A. Among them is David B. Lindsay, Jr., who is scheduled to meet with you following the interview to continue the discussion begun in Sarasota.

Staff Participants: Ron Nessen, Margita White and Alan Greenspan.

C. <u>Press Plan</u>: The interview will be for immediate release for the participating papers. The transcript will be made available later to the White House Press Corps. White House photographs will be taken and sent to the newsmen, autographed by the President, as a memento of the interview.

III. TALKING POINTS

A question and answer briefing book has been prepared for you. It includes information about the editorial positions of some of the participating newspapers. Your basic Florida book will be updated with any last-minute Q & As. Mr. Horatio Aguirre Diario Las Americas Miami, Florida

Mr. Earle Bowden Editor <u>News-Journal</u> (circulation 86, 243) Pensacola, Florida

Mr. Paul Brookshire Editor South Dade News-Leader (circulation 13, 732) Homestead, Florida

Ms. Jayne Brumley Washington Correspondent Florida Times-Union/Journal Jacksonville, Florida

Mr. Al Hutchison Editor <u>Clearwater Sun</u> (circulation 38,813) Clearwater, Florida

Mr. Thomas A. Kelly Managing Editor Palm Beach Post (circulation 68, 982) West Palm Beach, Florida

Mr. Howard Kleinberg Editor <u>Miami News</u> (circulation 78, 285) Miami, Florida

Mr. Dave Kraslow Cox Newspapers Washington, D. C.

Mr. Sanders H. Lamont Managing Editor <u>News-Press</u> (circulation 49,694) Fort Myers, Florida (Gannett Group)

(Cox Newspapers)

(Gannett Group)

Mr. David B. Lindsay, Jr. Publisher and Editor <u>Herald-Tribune and Journal</u> (circulation 68, 305) (Lindsay Newspapers, Inc.) Sarasota, Florida

Mr. William A. Mullen Editor <u>Sun-Sentinel</u> (circulation 44, 496) Pompano Beach, Florida

(Gore Newspapers Co.)

Mr. Emmett Peter, Jr. Chief Editorial Writer <u>Sentinel Star</u> (circulation 175, 357) Orlando, Florida

Mr. Waldo Proffitt Editorial Director <u>Herald-Tribune and Journal</u> (circulation 68, 305) (Lindsay Newspapers, Inc.) Sarasota, Florida

Mr. John S. Walters Executive Editor Florida Times-Union and Journal (circulation 149, 424) Jacksonville, Florida

Mr. Barney Waters Managing Editor <u>Cocoa Today</u> (circulation 52, 566) Cocoa, Florida

Mr. Corbin Wyant Publisher <u>Herald-News</u> (circulation 8, 326) Punta Gorda, Florida (Gannett Group)

(Thomson Newspapers, Inc.)

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH WILLIAM GROVE - WJXT-TV Jacksonville, Florida

Thursday, March 4, 1976 11:00 - 11:30 am Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen CHN

I. PURPOSE

To videotape a 30-minute interview with William Grove, WJXT-TV anchorman and newsman in Jacksonville, Florida.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN:

A. Background

This 30-minute interview will be broadcast in Jacksonville from 7:30-8:00 pm prior to the Florida primary. The interview will be similar to the ones with Ralph Renick and Richard Whitcomb of the Miami TV stations, and will cover many of the same topics.

You will recall that Bill Grove, along with three other Florida newsmen, participated in an interview with you during your visit to the Jacksonville area on November 2, 1975, to meet with President Sadat. Mary Grove, Bill's wife, accompanied her husband to Washington in order to meet you. She is a staunch supporter and avid admirer of yours and will be present during the interview.

B. Participants

The President Bill Grove Ron Nessen Bob Mead

C. Press Plan:

An official White House transcript will be made. A White House photographer will be present. Photos will be autographed by the President and sent to Grove later as a memento of the occasion.

III. TALKING POINTS

A Florida briefing book has been sent to you. Any last minute issues will be called to your attention before the interview.

INTERVIEW WITH FLORIDA RADIO STATIONS Sunday, March 6, 1976 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm The Blue Room

Frem: Ros Nesses

L PURPOSE

To be interviewed by reporters from 26 Florida radio stations for broadcast in their regular news programs over the next four days, before the Tuesday primery.

IL BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

We have received a number of individual requests from Florida stations for interviews with you prior to the Florida primary. It was decided to invite most of the radio stations in the largest cities of Florida to send reporters to Washington for a group interview. 26 stations accepted the invitation.

Altegether, 28 representatives of Florida radio stations will attend, including three young men from college radio station WKGC-FM in Panama City. They are making arrangements to give the radio recordings to three additional college stations in different areas of Florida. In turn, this will give the interview statewide radio broadcast on the Public Breadcasting stations.

Fay Wells, a member of the White House Press Corps, will be representing Storer Breadcasting's WGBS in Miami. Richard Eaten, owner of a number of radio stations in Florida and elsewhere, will attend as an observer, accompanied by his son. Dick.

The interview will take place in the Blue Room. You will be seated throughout the interview. WHCA is providing technical facilities in order that the sadie stations will have good quality recordings for breadcast. The stations can use the material for broadcast immediately after the interview. Either before or after the interview in the Blue Room, the radio reporters will be brought into the Red Room one at a time to shake hands briefly and have photographs taken individually with you.

During the interview, the reporters will seek recognition from you and you will acknowledge the questioners. 30 minutes into the interview, there will be a short break in order for the reporters to replace cassette tapes in their recording devices. At the conclusion of the interview, the reporters will be taken on a special White House tour.

B. Darticipants

The President Florida Radio Reporters (see attached list) Ron Nessen

C. Press Plan

Individual and group photographs will be taken by the White House photographer, to be autographed by the President and mailed later to the participants as a memento of the occasion. A transcript will be made for the official files and for distribution later to the White House Press Corps. The reporters will make their own tape recordings.

III. TALKING POINTS

You are well briefed on the issues of interest in Florida because of your recent trip last weekend and the WJXT interview Thursday. I will bring you up to date Sunday on any late Florida stories and on Ronald Reagan's appearance on "Meet the Press."

Participa: in Interview with Florida Rad Stations

Elsie Mercer

Jeffrey S. Luber

Robert Sadbrink

Richard Eaton (owner) and Dick Eaton (oon)

Fay Wells

Jason L. Shrinsky

Hal Cessaa

Bill Bayer

He rold Cohn

Heary Searcy

Fred Redman

Marshall Roland

H. Dennison Parker

R. A. McLood

John G. Johnson

Harold Arthur Rouben

William B. Faber

Carol Roland

William Haselton

William H. Dutcher

James E. Reihle

WGGG - Gainesville

WKIS - Orlando WOBA - Miami

WLYF and WFUN - Miami

WFAB - Miami

WGBS - Miami (White House correspondent for Storer Breadcasting)

WTMI - Miami WIOD - Miami WINZ - Miami WERD - Jacksenville WFAM - Jacksenville WJCT - Jacksenville WQIK - Jacksenville WTAN - Clearwater WTMP - Tampa

WRBQ - Tampa

WYOU - Tampa

WFLA - Tampa

WQYK - Tampa / St. Petersburg

WWBA - Tampe / St. Petersburg

FOR

WWBA - Tampa / St. Petersburg

WHYI - Hollywood

Charles BortnicWVUIWilliam John KeaneWVUISamuel TrentWBSERenald H. StrotherWPAICharles T. WootenWKGGRonald Clyde JohnsonWKGGElkin Terry JackWKGG

WVUM - Coral Gab WVUM - Coral Gables WBSR - Pensacola WPAP - Panama City WKGC -FM - Panama City WKGG-FM - Panama City

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH CHICAGO TV ANCHORMEN

Wednesday, March 10, 1976 11:00 a.m. (30 minutes) The Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen RH

I. PURPOSE

To be interviewed by Anchormen from the four leading television stations in Chicago for broadcast before the Illinois primary.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

Each of the Chicago television stations has requested an opportunity to interview you. It was decided to invite the stations to a group interview.

The stations will each get a copy of the video tape of the interview. Cameras, tape recorders and other technical facilities will be on a pool basis, rather than separate equipment for each station.

The stations will broadcast the interview at various times between now and next Tuesday's primary in Illinois. These stations have their studios in Chicago but their programs are received in a wide area of northern and central Illinois, as well as some portions of Indiana and Wisconsin.

For the interview, you will be seated in front of the fireplace in the Oval Office. The four interviewers will be on the two sofas.

These local anchormen will certainly show the video tape to their networks, and so it is possible that excerpts from the interview will be broadcast by the networks on their nightly news shows on Wednesday.

B. Participants

Floyd Kalber - WMAQ-TV (NBC) - Veteran of the group and a most popular newscaster in Chicago for many years

Walter Jacobson - WBBM-TV (CBS) - A new and fast-rising television newsman with a special interest in politics.

Joe Daly - WLS-TV (ABC)

John A. Taylor - WGN-TV (independent - owned by the Chicago Tribune)

Ron Nessen Bob Mead

C. Press Plan

Interview will be acknowledged. Transcript will be provided to White House press corps following broadcast. White House photographs will be taken, autographed by the President, and sent to the participants later as a memento of the event.

III. TALKING POINTS

You have the basic Illinois briefing book and the Paul O'Neil memo concerning the Air Force ROTC situation in Illinois universities.

I will bring you up to date on any last-minute issues just before the interview.

-2-



WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW BY CHICAGO TRIBUNE Wednesday, March 10, 1976 2:00 p.m. (45 minutes) The Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen RAN

I. PURPOSE

To be interviewed by three representatives of the <u>Chicago Tribune</u> for an article to appear on Sunday, two days prior to the Illinois primary.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

The <u>Tribune</u> is interviewing each of the Presidential candidates prior to the March 16 Illinois primary. The Sunday, March 14, edition will feature the views of the candidates, including their answers to 8 or 9 questions which are being directed to each of the candidates through these interviews.

You were interviewed by the <u>Tribune</u> once before as President, on February 6, 1975

The <u>Tribune</u> endorsed you for the primary election on February 29, 1976.

B. Participants

The President

Maxwell McCrohon - Managing Editor James D. Squires - Washington Bureau Chief Aldo Beckman - White House Correspondent

> (Squires and Beckman participated in the 1975 interview, along with Clayton Kirkpatrick and William Neikirk)

Ron Nessen Margita White

C. Press Plan

The major protion of the interview will be held for use by the <u>Tribune</u> in the Sunday, March 14, edition. Should there be any major news forthcoming from the interview, the Chicago <u>Tribune</u> will also run a story the morning following the interview. A transcript will be made available to the <u>Tribune</u> following the interview and to other White House reporters after publication.

III. TALKING POINTS

The basic Illinois briefing book was returned to you for guidance on local issues and Q & A's. I will bring you up to date on any lastminute issues just before the interview.

Paul O'Neil has given you a separate briefing paper on the Air Force ROTC situation at Bradley and other Illinois universities.



WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH WSOC-TV Wednesday, March 17, 1976 2:00 p.m. (30 minutes) The Oval Office

FROM:

ron nessen RBM

I. PURPOSE

To be interviewed by WSOC-TV, the NBC affiliate in Charlotte, North Carolina for broadcast before the North Carolina primary.

BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN II.

Background Α.

This is the first in a series of interviews you are giving to North Carolina television stations and newspapers to answer questions and explain your policies to the North Carolina audience before that state's primary.

This interview will be conducted by Bill Walker, the anchorman of the 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. news broadcast on WSOC, and considered to be the best known TV news personality in Charlotte. Prior to becoming anchorman, Walker was their political reporter.

The interview will be done on film and will run for 30 minutes. Portions of it will be broadcast on the 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. news broadcasts on Friday. The entire 30-minute interview will be broadcast on Sunday evening from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Β. Participants

The President Bill Walker, WSOC-TV Anchorman Ron Nessen Bob Mead

Press Plan C.

The interview will be acknowledged. A transcript will be distributed to the White House Press Corp upon request after the interview has been broadcast in Charlotte. A White House photo will be taken and later autographed by the President to be sent to Bill Walker as a memento of the meeting.

III. TALKING POINTS

You have the basic North Carolina briefing book prepared for your trip to North Carolina last weekend. I will bring you up-to-date on any late developments before the interview.

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH NORTH CAROLINA NEWSPAPERS

Thursday, March 18, 1976 11:00 a.m. (60 minutes) The Diplomatic Reception Room

From: Ron Nessen

I. PURPOSE

To be interviewed by editors and reporters of North Carolina newspapers before that state's primary.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background:

In response to requests from several North Carolina newspapers for interviews prior to the primary, invitations were extended to all the state's approximately 50 dailies to participate in this interview.

Thirty nine editors and reporters, representing 30 newspapers, will attend. Mr. Armfield Coffey, President of the North Carolina Association of Non-Daily Newspapers, will represent North Carolina weekly newspapers.

The format is similar to that of other recent interviews with radio broadcasters and newspapers.

Following the interview and time to file their stories, the participants will be briefed at 2:00 pm by Alan Greenspan and Don Rumsfeld.

B. <u>Participants</u>: List at Tab A and Ron Nessen, Margita White, and Alan Greenspan

C. Press Plan:

The interview will be for immediate release for the participating papers. The transcript will be made available later to the White House Press Corps. White House photographs will be taken and sent to the newsmen, autographed by the President, as a memento of the interview.

III. TALKING POINTS

A North Carolina briefing book has been prepared for you. It includes information about the editorial positions of some of the participating newspapers. I will bring you up to date on any last-minute issues before the interview.

INTERVIEW WITH NORTH CAROLINA NEWSPAPER EDITORS

March 18, 1976 - 11:00 a.m. Diplomatic Reception Room

AUSBAND, Jerry Cox Editor <u>Star</u> 315 East Graham Street Shelby, North Carolina 28150

BEACH, John W. Editor <u>Observer-News-Enterprise</u> Newton, North Carolina 28658

BETTS, JR., John M. Washington Correspondent <u>News/Record</u> 200-04 North Davie Street Greensboro, North Carolina 27402

BROWN, Joe Editor Enterprise 210 Church Avenue High Point, North Carolina 27261

BURNS, JR., John Kendrick Contributing Editor <u>Record</u> East Canary Street Dunn, North Carolina 28334

CADIEU, JR., J. Neal Publisher <u>Richmond County Journal</u> 105 Washington Street Rockingham, North Carolina 28379

CLAY, Charles A. Editor <u>Observer</u> 512 Hay Street Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301



*COFFEY, Paul Armfield Executive Editor <u>Watauga Democrat</u> Post Office Box 357 Boone, North Carolina 28607

COFFEY, Rachel Rivers Publisher <u>Watauga Democrat</u> Post Office Box 357 Boone, North Carolina 28607

CREECH, Julius R. Publisher & Owner <u>Southerner</u> 107 West St. James Street Tarboro, North Carolina 27886

DEAR, David R. President, Publisher & Editor Dear Publications 1053 National Press Building Washington, D. C. 20045

DENNIS, William Austin City Editor <u>Dispatch</u> 304 Chestnut Street Henderson, North Carolina 27536

ELDER (LYONS), Shirley Washington Correspondent <u>News and Observer</u> 215 South McDowell Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

ESLINGER, JOHN E. Editor, Editorial Page <u>Herald</u> 115-19 Market Street Durham, North Carolina 27702

* President of the North Carolina Assocation of Non-Daily Newspapers

FUTRELL, JR., Ashley B. Vice President <u>News</u> 217 Market Street Washington, North Carolina 27889

GUNTER, Rick V. Associate Editor <u>Times</u> 14 O. Henry Avenue Asheville, North Carolina 28801

HACKETT, Bill Political Editor <u>Times-News</u> 1755 Four Seasons Boulevard Hendersonville, N. C. 27839

HALL, Don Publisher <u>Herald</u> 916 Roanoke Avenue Roanoke Rapids, N. C. 27870

HARRELL, Benjamin Carlton Managing Editor <u>Sun</u> 115-19 Market Street Durham, North Carolina 27702

HASWELL, Joel Assistant Regional Editor <u>Herald</u> 115-19 Market Street Durham, North Carolina 27702

HERNDON, Claude Nash General Reporter <u>Twin City Sentinel</u> 416-20 North Marshall Winston-Salem, N. C. 27102

HILL, Heath Haldane Editor, Editoral Page Journal 416-20 North Marshall Winston-Salem, N. C. 27102 KENNEDY, John W. Managing Editor <u>Tribune</u> 125 Union Street, South Concord, North Carolina 28025

PARCE II, Arthur Mead Editor <u>Times-News</u> 1755 Four Seasons Boulevard Hendersonville, N. C. 27839

PARKER, JR., Joseph Roy Editor <u>Times</u> 512 Hay Street Fayetteville, N. C. 28301

POOLE, Robert M. Washington Correspondent Journal 416-20 North Marshall Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27102

PRICE, H. Eugene Editor <u>News-Argus</u> 310 North Berkeley Boulevard Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530

RAYNOR, George S. Editor <u>Post</u> 131 West Innes Street Salisbury, North Carolina 28144

SECHRIEST, Vernon Franklin Managing Editor <u>Telegram</u> 150 Howard Street Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27801 KENNEDY, John W. Managing Editor <u>Tribune</u> 125 Union Street, South Concord, North Carolina 28025

PARCE II, Arthur Mead Editor <u>Times-News</u> 1755 Four Seasons Boulevard Hendersonville, N. C. 27839

PARKER, JR., Joseph Roy Editor <u>Times</u> 512 Hay Street Fayetteville, N. C. 28301

POOLE, Robert M. Washington Correspondent Journal 416-20 North Marshall Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27102

PRICE, H. Eugene Editor <u>News-Argus</u> 310 North Berkeley Boulevard Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530

RAYNOR, George S. Editor <u>Post</u> 131 West Innes Street Salisbury, North Carolina 28144

SECHRIEST, Vernon Franklin Managing Editor <u>Telegram</u> 150 Howard Street Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27801 SHARPE, JR., John Allen Publisher, President & Editor <u>Robesonian</u> 121 West Fifth Street Lumberton, North Carolina 28358

SINK, JR., Joe S. Vice President & Editor <u>Dispatch</u> 30 East First Avenue Lexington, North Carolina 27292

STEPP, Albert Carl Washington Correspondent <u>Observer</u> 600 South Tyron Street Charlotte, North Carolina 28201

SUMPTER, Glenn News Editor Journal 105 Washington Street Rockingham, North Carolina 28379

THARRINGTON, Walter D. Business Manager <u>Dispatch</u> 304 Chestnut Street Henderson, North Carolina 27536

WHICHARD II, David J. President, Co-Publisher & Editor <u>Reflector</u> 209 Cotanche Street Greenville, North Carolina 27834

WHITLEY, Donald P. General Manager Advance 216 South Poindexter Street Elizabeth City, N. C. 27909

WILLIS, Joseph Alan Editor, Editorial Page <u>Twin City Sentinel</u> 416-20 North Marshall Winston-Salem, N. C. 27102 WILSON, James B. Executive Editor <u>Star-News</u> Post Office Box 840 Wilmington, N. C. 28401

YARBOROUGH, Ramon B. Publisher <u>Observer</u> 512 Hay Street Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301

WASHINGTON

RECEPTION FOR NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Friday, March 19, 1976 3:30 p.m. The State Floor

RNN.

From: Ron Nessen Margita White

I. PURPOSE

To take questions from and meet with some 350 editors and publishers of weeklies and small dailies, participating in the 15th Annual Government Affairs Conference of the National Newspaper Association.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

- A. <u>Background</u>: The National Newspaper Association, representing more than 5,000 weekly and nearly 1,000 non-metropolitan daily newspapers, is holding its annual three-day government affairs conference in Washington, March 18-20. The program includes briefings by Members of Congress and Administration spokesmen, including George Bush, W. J. Usery and David Mathews.
- B. Participants: The officers are:

William E. Branen, President Burlington Standard Press Burlington, Wisconsin

George Joplin, Vice President Commonwealth-Journal Somerset, Kentucky

Harold Hudson, Treasurer Perryton Herald Perryton, Texas

Ted Serrill, Executive Vice President National Newspaper Association Washington, D. C.

The guest list of members and some wives and older children is attached at Tab A. Several members are officiers of the fifty State and regional newspaper associations which are affiliated with the NNA.

- Staff: Ron Nessen and Margita White Invitations extended to senior White House staff.
- D. Press Plan: Full coverage of the Q &A session in East Room followed by writing pool coverage of the reception in the State Dining Room. Participants, as publishers and editors, will publish in-depth personalized reports for their readers upon their return to their home cities. The NNA's tradepublication, <u>Publishers' Auxiliary</u> also will give extensive coverage to the event. White House photos, autographed by the President, will be sent to the officers of the NNA and others photographed individually with the President.

III. FORMAT AND TALKING POINTS

- A.' Format: You will enter the East Room at 3:30 p.m. The guests will be seated. After taking questions for about 15 minutes, you will ask your guests to join you in the State Dining Room for refreshments.
- B. <u>Talking Points</u>: You are well prepared for the questions you are likely to receive from this group because of your other recent interviews and news conferences.

A major issue with this group is postal rates for their publications. (Benjamin Baylar, of the U.S. Postal Service, will speak to the group earlier in the day.) At Tab B is a group of Q&A's concerning postal rates and the Postal Service.

In your greetings to the group, before taking Q&A's, you may want to mention the following items:

- Welcome your guests and state your pleasure in again meeting with these representatives of the grassroots press -the community newspapers of America.
- 2. Make reference to the CPI, GNP and NI data which will have been released earlier in the day.

1

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH NORTH CAROLINA TELEVISION STATIONS Friday, March 19, 1976 11:00 a.m. (30 minutes) The Map Room

From: Ron Nessen(

I. PURPOSE

To be interviewed by anchormen from television stations in Raleigh-Durham and Greensboro, North Carolina for broadcast before the primary next Tuesday.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

This is the last in the series of interviews you are doing at the White House with news outlets in North Carolina. The format is a 30-minute television interview with 4 anchormen representing 4 North Carolina television stations.

Three cameras will be set up to video tape the interview in the Map Room.

Each of the stations will use the interview at a different time over the next few days. Here is a list of the stations, the anchormen, and the anticipated broadcast time of the interview:

WRAL (ABC) Raleigh-Durham Lorraine Moore 5-5:30 p.m. - Sunday

WRDU (NBC) Raleigh-Durham Carole Ogle Sunday (no specific time yet) WTVP (CBS) Raleigh-Durham Ray A. Jones 1-1:30 p.m. - Sunday

WFMY (CBS) Greensboro Allen Rabun Matthews Sunday - 10:00-10:30 p.m.

B. Participants

The President

Lorraine Moore Carole Ogle Ray A. Jones Allen Rabun Matthews

Ron Nessen Bob Mead

C. Press Plan

The interview will be acknowledged. A transcript will be distributed to the White House Press Corps after broadcast. White House photographs will be taken, autographed by the President, and sent to the participants as mementos of the occasion.

III. TALKING POINTS

Your basic North Carolina briefing book is still in your office. I will bring you up-to-date on any last-minute developments before the interview.

WASHINGTON

RECEPTION FOR NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Friday, March 19, 1976 3:30 p.m. The State Floor

RHN.

From: Ron Nessen

I. PURPOSE

To take questions from and meet with some 350 editors and publishers of weeklies and small dailies, participating in the 15th Annual Government Affairs Conference of the National Newspaper Association.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

- A. <u>Background</u>: The National Newspaper Association, representing more than 5,000 weekly and nearly 1,000 non-metropolitan daily newspapers, is holding its annual three-day government affairs conference in Washington, March 18-20. The program includes briefings by Members of Congress and Administration spokesmen, including George Bush, W. J. Usery and David Mathews.
- B. Participants: The officers are:

William E. Branen, President Burlington Standard Press Burlington, Wisconsin

George Joplin, Vice President Commonwealth-Journal Somerset, Kentucky

Harold Hudson, Treasurer Perryton Herald Perryton, Texas Ted Serrill, Executive Vice President National Newspaper Association Washington, D.C.

The guest list of members and some wives and older children is attached at Tab A. Several members are officiers of the fifty State and regional newspaper associations which are affiliated with the NNA.

- Staff: Ron Nessen and Margita White Invitations extended to senior White House staff.
- D. <u>Press Plan</u>: Full coverage of the Q &A session in East Room followed by writing pool coverage of the reception in the State Dining Room. Participants, as publishers and editors, will publish in-depth personalized reports for their readers upon their return to their home cities. The NNA's tradepublication, <u>Publishers' Auxiliary</u> also will give extensive coverage to the event. White House photos, autographed by the President, will be sent to the officers of the NNA and others photographed individually with the President.

III. FORMAT AND TALKING POINTS

- A. Format: You will enter the East Room at 3:30 p.m. The guests will be seated. After taking questions for about 15 minutes, you will ask your guests to join you in the State Dining Room for refreshments.
- B. <u>Talking Points</u>: You are well prepared for the questions you are likely to receive from this group because of your other recent interviews and news conferences.

A major issue with this group is postal rates for their publications. (Benjamin Baylar, of the U.S. Postal Service, will speak to the group earlier in the day.) At Tab B is a group of Q&A's concerning postal rates and the Postal Service.

In your greetings to the group, before taking Q&A's, you may want to mention the following items:

- 1. Welcome your guests and state your pleasure in again meeting with these representatives of the grassroots press -the community newspapers of America.
- 2. Make reference to the CPI, GNP and NI data which will have been released earlier in the day.

WASHINGTON

FAREWELL CALL BY JACK HUSHEN AND FAMILY Tuesday, March 23, 1976 12:25 pm (5 minutes) Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen

I. PURPOSE

To say goodbye to Jack Hushen, who has left the Press Office Staff.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

Jack Hushen has left the Press Office Staff after having served as Deputy Press Secretary from August 17, 1974 until February 1976. Jack is originally from Michigan, and prior to his position on the White House staff, he was the Public Information Officer at the Justice Department from 1970. Before that he worked for Senator Griffin for 3 years from 1966 to 1969. Jack is now employed with the Eaton Corporation.

B. Participants

John W. (Jack) Hushen Mrs. Margaret Hushen Susan Hushen Jane Hushen Peter Hushen

C. <u>Press Plan</u>

A White House photographer will take photographs of the greeting.

III. TALKING POINTS

Wish Jack the best in his new position.

WASHINGTON

March 18, 1976

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MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN

FROM: WILLIAM W. NICHOLSON WWW

SUBJECT: <u>Approved Presidential Activity</u>

Please take the necessary steps to implement the following and confirm with Mrs. Nell Yates, ext. 2699. The appropriate briefing paper should be submitted to Dr. David Hoopes by 4:00 p.m. of the preceding day.

Meeting: Farewell Call for Jack Hushen and Family

Date: Tues., March 23, '76 <u>Time:</u> 12:25 p.m. <u>Duration:</u> 5 mins.

Location: The Oval Office

Press Coverage: White House Photographer

<u>Purpose:</u> To afford him the opportunity to say farewell and have photographs taken with the President.

cc: Mr. Cheney Mr. Hartmann Mr. Marsh Dr. Connor Dr. Hoopes Mr. Jones Mr. Smith Mr. O'Donnell Mrs. Yates

THE PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING BOOK

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL EDITORS ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, March 30, 1976 2:00 p.m. The Family Theater

From: Ron Nessen

I. PURPOSE

This meeting with members of the American Agricultural Editors Association will give you a chance to outline your farm policies, to knock down criticism of unpopular moves, such as the wheat embargo and your veto of the milk parity bill, and to reassure farmers that their interests are important to you in making policy.

Secretary Butz recently said that you would get 60 percent of the farm vote in November. This interview can help solidfy and expand that support by enlisting farm publication editors to explain your policies.

II. BACKGROUND

The American Agricultural Editors Association claims that the combined circulation of its members' magazines and newspapers reaches every farmer and rancher in the United States. It is holding its annual workshop at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, March 29-30, 1976. The two-day session will include reports to Congress and briefings by Members of Congress and Administration officials. The Secretary of Agriculture, Earl Butz, will speak to the group during lunch, immediately preceding their question and answer session with you.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Eighty-two members of the American Agricultural Editors Association. The current officers are:

Richard Krumme, President Successful Farming

James P. Lilly, Secretary-Treasurer Prairie Farmer

David E. Bryant, Vice President Today's Farmer Wilson Carnes, Imm. Past President National Future Farmer

WASHINGTON

COURTESY CALL BY DEAN LESHER Wednesday, March 30, 1976 12:30 p.m. (10 minutes) The Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{H}\mathcal{N}$

I. PURPOSE

To greet briefly and have your picture taken with Dean Lesher, publisher of a half-dozen newspapers in California, and Mrs. Lesher.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

Last Saturday, at the recommendation of Rogers Morton, Evelle Younger, Bob Hartmann and myself, you telephoned Dean Lesher from Air Force One as you were leaving California. During the call Lesher mentioned that he and his wife would be in Washington this week and be guests at your dinner for King Hussein and you suggested they stop in the Oval Office briefly on Wednesday.

Lesher ownes the <u>Contra Costa Times</u> and about half-dozen other papers in northern California. He is a leading opinion-maker in the northern California area.

Politically, Lesher is straddling the fence between loyalty to Reagan and to the President. Part of his loyalty to Reagan goes back to the time when the then-Governor appointed him to the board of trustees of the University of California.

B. Participants

The President Mr. and Mrs. Lesher Ron Nessen White House photographer

1.00

C. Press Plan

No announcement. White House photographs will be taken, autographed by the President, and sent to Lesher as a memento of the occasion.

III. TALKING POINTS

No prepared remarks are needed. This would be a continuation of your telephone conversation. You may wish to draw out Lesher on whether you can address any reservations he has about your candidacy.

WASHINGTON

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MEETING WITH TOM KEATING, INDIANAPOLIS STAR

Thursday, April 8, 1976 4:15 p.m. (15 minutes) Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen RHN

I. PURPOSE

To greet and have photograph taken with a visiting <u>Indianapolis Star</u> columnist, preparing a Bicentennial series, accompanied by the Star's Washington correspondent.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

- A. <u>Background</u>: Tom Keating, a columnist for the <u>Indianapolis</u> <u>Star</u>, is traveling throughout the Eastern seaboard preparing a Bicentennial series of columns. Max Friedersdorf recommended that he meet with you during his three-day visit to Washington. (The Indiana primary is May 4).
- B. <u>Participants</u>: Tom Keating, Columnist for the <u>Star</u> Benjamin (Ben) R. Cole, Washington Correspondent

Staff Participants: Ron Nessen, Max Friedersdorf

C. <u>Press Plan</u>: White House photos only. Mr. Keating will write about his visit in his Bicentennial columns.

III. TALKING POINTS

- 1. I understand that you are traveling throughout the East and writing columns on the Bicentennial for the <u>Star</u>. I am pleased that we could have you visit the White House while you are in Washington.
- 2. Ben Cole, it is a pleasure to see you. We certainly enjoyed the Gridiron last week.

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH VERMONT ROYSTER Monday, April 12, 1976 11:00 a.m. (30 minutes) The Oval Office

From: Ro:

Ron Nessen RHN

I. <u>PURPOSE</u>

To be interviewed by Vermont Royster for publication as part of his regular column in the <u>Wall Street Journal</u>. The material would be used immediately and also in future columns.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

Vermont Royster has been with the <u>Wall Street Journal</u> for almost 40 years. Since 1971 he has been a contributing editor and columnist, as well as senior vice president of the Dow Jones Company, which publishes the <u>Wall Street Journal</u>. He lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where, in addition to writing his column, he is a professor of journalism and public affairs at the University of North Carolina.

You have expressed an interest from time to time in meeting Royster because of his favorable columns. Because of scheduling conflicts, a meeting has not been possible until now.

In the Spring of 1976, Royster was under consideration to be a member of the National Commission on Electronic Fund Transfer Systems. Rather than resign his position as director of Dow Jones and of a large bank, Royster decided not to accept a place on the Commission.

B. Participants

The President Vermont Royster

Bill Seidman Ron Nessen

C. Press Plan

No announcement. A transcript will be made and distributed to the White House Press Corps upon request after Royster has published his column on the interview. White House photographs will be taken, autographed by the President, and sent to Royster as a memento of the occasion.

III. TALKING POINTS

No special preparation required. You are well briefed following you various Q & A sessions in Texas.

WASHINGTON

Q & A AND RECEPTION FOR AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS

Tuesday, April 13, 1976 5:00 p.m. (One hour) Rose Garden (Q & A) State Floor (Reception)

From: Ron Nessen Margita White

I. PURPOSE

To answer questions from and host a reception for editors participating in the annual convention of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS PLAN

A. <u>Background</u>: The American Society of Newspaper Editors represents the editors of the nation's leading daily newspapers. ASNE meets annually in Washington and a White House reception as well as a Presidential Q & A session at the Convention have become almost traditional. Last year you hosted a White House reception and appeared at the convention to take questions from a panel of editors. (You also met with a small group of ASNE members to discuss the Freedom of Information Act amendments in October, 1974).

This year you have agreed to take questions from a panel of editors in the Rose Garden prior to the reception, weather permitting.

B. <u>Participants</u>: The guest list of editors and spouses (about 900) is attached at Tab A. The key officers of the organization are:

Warren H. Phillips, President (President and Chief Executive Officer of the Wall Street Journal)

George Chaplin, Vice President (Editor, <u>Honolulu Advertiser</u>) Michael (Mike) O'Neill, Program Committee Chairman (Editor, New York Daily News) C. <u>Press Plan</u>: There will be open coverage of the Q & A session in the Rose Garden. A writing pool will cover the reception. White House photographs will be taken.

III. FORMAT, SCENARIO AND TALKING POINTS

A. Format: The questions will be asked by a panel of five editors in a "Meet the Press" format. In addition, ASNE President, Warren Phillips, will make brief opening comments. The panelists will ask questions in turn (including follow-up questions) for 20 to 25 minutes. The panelists are:

> Robert L. Bartley, Editorial Page Editor, <u>Wall Street Journal</u> Anthony (Tony) Day, Editor of the Editorial Pages, <u>Los Angeles</u> <u>Times</u>

Tom Johnson, Publisher, <u>Dallas Times Herald</u> A. (Abe) M. Rosenthal, Managing Editor, <u>New York Times</u> Howard Simons, Managing Editor, Washington Post

- B. <u>Scenario</u>
 - 1. At 4:55, Ron Nessen and Margita White will escort Mr. Phillips and the five members of the panel to the Oval Office to meet briefly with you and be photographed.
 - 2. At 5:00 p.m. you will proceed to the platform in the Rose Garden accompanied by Mr. Phillips and the panel.
 - 3. Mr. Phillips will express his appreciation to you for hosting the ASNE at the White House and introduce the panelists and format.
 - 4. You will acknowledge Mr. Phillips' introduction and turn to the panel for questions.
 - 5. After 20-25 minutes, one of the panelists will say "Thank you Mr. President."
 - 6. You will then invite your guests to join you the Residence for refreshments.
- C. <u>Talking Points</u>: Prior to taking questions, you may wish to express your pleasure at again having an opportunity to welcome the American Society of Newspaper Editors to the White House.

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PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL RAY FOR A NEWSWEEK COVER

Tuesday, April 20, 1976 12:15 p.m. (10 minutes) The President's Study

From: Ron Nessen

L PURPOSE

To be photographed for a future cover of NEWSWEEK magazine.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. BACKGROUND

Bill Ray is an outstanding photographer who has photographed many political leaders over the years. NEWSWEEK requested the opportunity to make a "studio-type" portrait for a future cover. They would prefer to have a photo made with proper lighting--rather than use a "news-type" photo from the wire services. This will be used as a cover between now and the Republican Convention.

B. PARTICIPANTS

William "Bill" Ray (NEWSWEEK photographer) Leslie Wong (Ray's assistant) Larry Speakes (Press Office Staff)

C. PRESS PLAN

No announcement. White House photo.

III. TALKING POINTS

None required.

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH CORINTHIAN TELEVISION STATIONS Tuesday, April 20, 1976 11:00 a.m. (30 minutes) The Map Room

From: Ron Nessen 人升升

I. PURPOSE

To answer questions in a 30-minute television interview for broadcast on the Corinthian stations in Houston, Texas; Fort Wayne and Indianpolis, Indiana; Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Sacramento, California.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

It was decided to accept this interview request because it gives you an opportunity to state your views on television in three important primary States: Texas, Indiana and California.

The interview will take place in the Map Room. You will be interviewed by Bert Roselle and Mike Morgan, anchormen for Houston station KHOU-TV. The interview will be broadcast from 7:30 to 8 p.m. -- prime time -- on all the Corinthian stations:

> KHOU-TV - Houston, Texas WANE-TV - Fort Wayne, Indiana WISH-TV - Indianapolis, Indiana KO-TV - Tulsa, Oklahoma KX-TV - Sacramento, California

There will be a short break during the interview to allow the cameraman to change video tape.

B. Participants

The President Bert Roselle Mike Morgan

Ron Nessen Bob Mead

C. Press Plan

The interview will be acknowledged. A transcript will be made and distributed to the White House Press Corps after the broadcast. White House photographs will be taken, autographed by the President and sent to the participants as a memento of the occasion. A station photographer also will take photographs to be used in promotional advertisements which will run in local newspapers before the broadcasts.

III. TALKING POINTS

You are well briefed on both national and international issues, as well as issues of special interest in Texas. If there are any late developments, I will brief you on them before the interview.

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH TEXAS CORRESPONDENTS

Wednesday, April 21, 1976 2:00 p.m. (45 minutes) The Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen RAM Margita White

I. PURPOSE

To be interviewed by Washington bureau chiefs and correspondents for Texas newspapers.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

- A. <u>Background</u>: You have received several requests from Texas media for interviews both in Texas and here in Washington. To accommodate newspaper requests, you agreed to meet with the Washington bureau chiefs or correspondents representing Texas newspapers at the White House.
- B. <u>Participants</u>: The participants represent the 23 Texas newspapers which have Washington correspondents (Tab A). Some of these papers are owned by the Scripps-Howard and Donrey Media chains which will be represented by their bureaus.

Staff Participants: Ron Nessen, Margita White

C. <u>Press Plan</u>: The interview will be for immediate release for the participants. A transcript will be made available to the White House press corps the following day. The participating papers may request wire photographs to be taken at the beginning of the interview. Official White House photographs will be taken.

III. TALKING POINTS

You probably should review your Texas Q&A briefing book before this interview to refresh your memory on such Texas issues as the Trinity River Barge Canal, Concord landings in Dallas, illegal immigrants from Mexico, heavy drug traffic from Mexico, and the military base closings problems. I will provide a separate, up to date briefing paper on Amtrack problems in Texas, which is of special interest to Sarah McClendon.

If there are any late developments in the Texas paper Wednesday morning, I will bring you up to date on them before the interview.

-2-

Helen Anderson, Bureau Chief Helen Anderson Bureau

> Abilene Reporter News San Antonio Light Waco Tribune-Herald Wichita Falls Times-Record News

William Choyke, Correspondent Capitol Hill News Service

> Palestine Record-Herald Pampa Daily News Texas City Daily Sun El Paso Journal Austin American-Statesman

John Cleland, Correspondent Houston Chronicle

Robert Duke, Correspondent El Paso Herald Post (Scripps-Howard)

John Geddie, Bureau Chief Dallas Morning News

Margaret Mayer, Correspondent Dallas Times Herald

Sarah McClendon, Bureau Chief McClendon News Bureau

> El Paso Times Sherman Democrat Temple Telegram Texas Trends Newsletter

Joe Thornton, Correspondent Fort Worth Star-Telegram Terry Wade, Bureau Chief Donrey Washington News Bureau

> Gainesville Register Weatherford Democrat Sweetwater Reporter

Arthur E. Wiese, Correspondent Houston Post

Jill Grossman, Correspondent Medill News Service, <u>Edinburg Daily Review</u> (also KGNC, Amarillo; WBAP, Fort Worth; KPRC, Houston)

WASHINGTON

FAREWELL CALL BY RANDALL WOODS AND FAMILY

Saturday, April 23, 1976 12:20 pm (5 minutes) Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen

I. <u>PURPOSE</u>

To say goodbye to Randy Woods, who is leaving the Press Office Staff.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

Randy Woods is leaving the Press Office staff after having served as Deputy Director of the Office of Communications from September 1975. He came to the White House from the Small Business Administration where for 3-1/2 years he was Assistant Administrator for Congressional and Public Affairs.

Randy will become the Director of Corporate Communications of Republic Steel Corporation, in Cleveland, Ohio. In January he is expected to be made Vice President for Public Relations.

Both Randy and his wife are native Texans. His last day at the White House is Friday, April 30.

B. Participants

The President Randall Woods Mrs. Ann Woods Robin (20) Kelly (13) Christy (14) John Carlson

C. <u>Press Plan</u>

The White House photographer will take pictures to be given to Randy.

WASHINGTON

FAREWELL CALL BY ERIC AND TERESA ROSENBERGER Saturday, April 23, 1976 12:15 pm (5 minutes) Oval Office

From: Ron Nessen

I. PURPOSE

To say goodbye to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Rosenberger, both of whom are members of the White House staff.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background

Eric Rosenberger is leaving the Press Office Staff after having served as head of the Press Advance Office since April 1974. Prior to that, he did advance work for you as Vice President from November 1973 to March 1974.

Teresa Rosenberger has been a member of the White House Research Office since April 1972.

They are moving to Boston where Eric will work in the family firm of Woodfield Farm, which is a health food and snack item business.

B. Participants

The President Eric Rosenberger Mrs. Teresa Rosenberger John Carlson

C. Press Plan

A White House photographer will take pictures to be given to Eric and Teresa.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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EXECUTIVE PR16 PR 2-1

INTERVIEW WITH NEWSPAPER FARM EDITORS ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, April 27, 1976 10:15 a.m. (30 minutes) The Roosevelt Room

AG PR 10

From: Ron Nessen Margita White

I. PURPOSE

To take questions from and meet with newspaper farm editors and writers.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS PLAN

A. <u>Background</u>: The Newspaper Farm Editors Association is a professional organization of farm writers for daily newspapers. The group includes representatives of wire and commodity news services, and such daily newspapers as the <u>Chicago Tribune</u>, the <u>New York Times</u>, and the <u>Des Moines Register</u>.

The Association meets every year in Washington to attend briefings with Congressional and Government leaders. The meeting this year is being held in the Hotel Washington, April 25-27.

B. <u>Participants:</u> Guest list of 41 members of NFEA is attached at Tab A.

The current officers are:

Mrs. Audrey Mackiewicz, President The Firelands Farmer Huron, Ohio

Michael J. Carr, First Vice President Decatur Herald and Review Decatur, Illinois Robert Denman, Program Chairman Commodity News Services Washington, DC

Staff: John G. Carlson Margita White Rahdy Woods

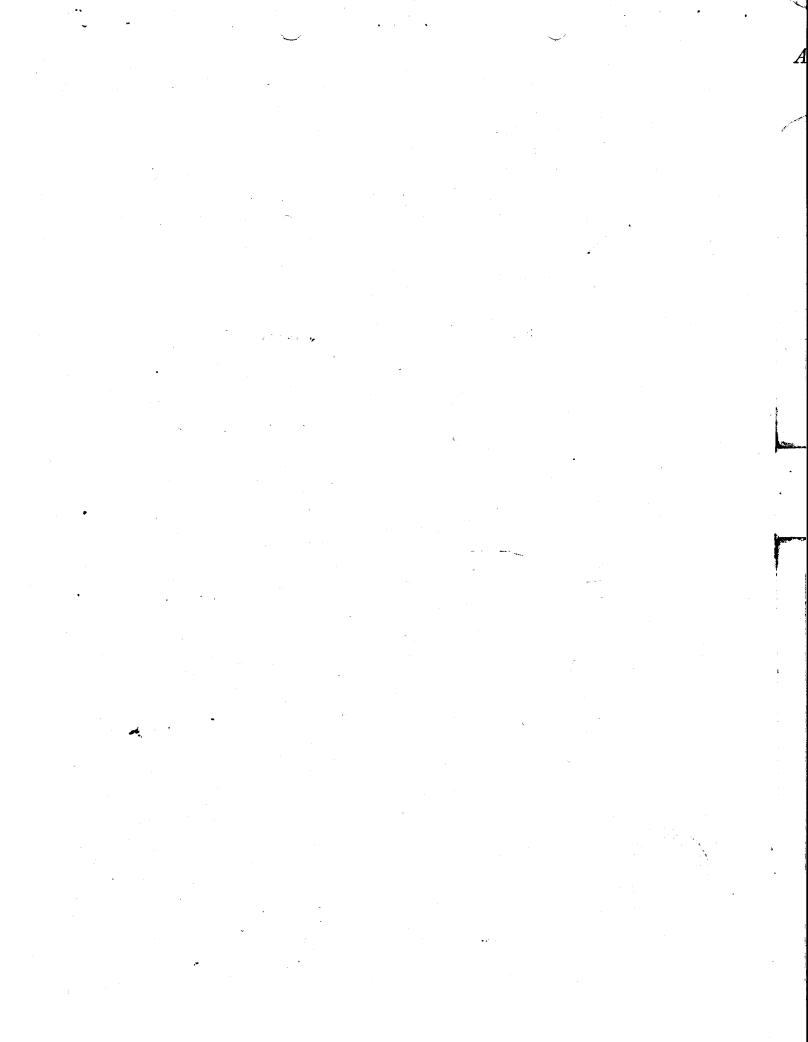
C. <u>Press Plan</u>: The meeting will be announced. A transcript will be made available to the participants and later to the White House Press Corps. White House photographs will be taken and sent to the participants.

III. TALKING POINTS

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Your current briefing book contains information on agricultural issues of interest to the group.

No opening comments are necessary; however, you may wish to mention that a special White House tour has been arranged for the members following the interview.



INTERVIEW WITH NEWSPAPER FARM EDITORS OF AMERICA

Tuesday, April 27, 1976 10:00 a.m.

BENNETT, Kara Lynn Commodity News Services 4800 Main Street, Suite 118 Kansas City, Missouri 64112

BJORKLUND, Louise A. Agricultural Journalism Dept. University of Wisconsin Madison, Wisconsin

BJORKLUND, Robert C. Wisconsin State Journal Madison, Wisconsin

BLAIR, William M. New York Times 1920 L Street, N.W. Washington, DC

BUNTING, Mildred Lancaster Livestock Reporter P.O. Box 276 Lancaster, Pennsylvania

CARR, Michael J. Decatur Herald Review 365 N. Main Decatur, Illinois

COSTELLO, Dominick P. Lincoln Star & Journal 926 P Street Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

CURRAN, Edward D. USDA Farm Paper Letter Washington, DC 20250

DENMAN, Robert Allan Commodity News Services 777 14th St., N.W. Suite 400 Washington, DC EASTHAM, Bill G. Flint Journal 200 E. First Street Flint, Michigan 48502

FERSCHWEILER, Thomas A. Oregon Journal 1320 S.W. Broadway Portland, Oregon

FOSTER, Creston J. Farm Bureau News 225 Touhy Avenue Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

GRUBER, Leslie R. Star-News Publications, Inc. 1003 S. 17th Street Wilmington, North Carolina

HANNAH, Stephen J. Milwaukee Journal 333 W. State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

HEILMANN, Henry L. Firelands Farmer 204 W. Main Street New London, Ohio 44851

HOLDRIDGE, S. Arichie Hartofrd Courant 285 Broad Street Hartford, Connecticut

HOLLIMAN, John (NMI)
Associated Press
2021 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC

HUMPHRIES, William S. North Carolina State University 314 Rick's Hall Raleigh, North Carolina KARNER, Herbert R. Tuisa World 315 S. Boulder Avenue Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102

KAYLOR, Robert L. United Press International 315 National Press Building Washington, DC

KENDALL, Donald M. The Associated Press 2021 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC

KENDALL, Linda Dawne Commodity News Services 777 14th Street, N.W. Suite 400 Washington, DC 20005

KRIEG, Dieter (NMI) Lancaster Farming Lititz, Pennsylvania 17543

LANE, David R. Peoria Journal Star l News Plaza Peoria, Illinois

MACKEWICZ, Audrey Marynn Sandusky Register Market & Jackson Streets Sandusky, Ohio 44860

MARCY, Steven K. The Packer, Drovers Journal One Gateway Center, 5th at State Kansas City, Kansas

MEYER, Gene Wall Street Journal Chicago, Illinois McNEELY, Bryan K. Agriculture Review 444 S. Central Avenue Marshfield, Wisconsin

MUHM, Donald C. Des Moines Register 715 Locust Des Moines, Iowa

ORR, Richard T. Chicago Tribune 435 N. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois

PETCHER, Gerald J. Ag - Review 444 S. Central Avenue Marshfield, Wisconsin

ROBBINS, William Hadley New York Times 1920 L Street, N.W. 8th Floor Washington, DC 20036

STREET, Harold K. Farmers Home Administration, USDA Washington, DC 20250

SUMNER, James H. Pennmarva Magazine 1225 Industrial Highway South Hampton, Pennsylvania

SWEGLE, J. Alan Cedar Rapids Gazette P.O. Box 511 Cear Rapids, Iowa TAYLOR, Hal R. USDA Communications Washington, DC 20250

VANCE, Linda S. Commodity News Service 777 14th St., N.W., Suite 400 Washington, DC

WATTS, Reginald Reuters 615 National Press Building Washington, DC

WILKEY, Keith L. Quincy Herald - Whig Quincy, Illinois

WOLFE, Preston Columbus Dispatch 34 S. Third Street Columbus, Ohio 43216

ZIPF, William H. Columbus Dispatch 34 S. Third Street Columbus, Ohio 43216

GRAIN INSPECTION

- Q. What are you doing about cleaning up the grain inspection mess?
- A. One thing is certain. It is absolutely essential that we maintain the confidence of our export grain customers-those who buy such a large percentage of America's farm production. On the other hand, we must not do this by turning all of the responsibility of industry and state government over to the Federal establishment. This is exactly what the Humphrey-Clark bill does. And if the bill comes down to the Oval Office in that form, I will veto it.

The House is considering a better approach and a more limited Federal role. If it is finally passed and is sent to me, I will take a good look at it.

In the meantime, the government has quickly moved to clean up the situation.

Grand juries in New Orleans, Houston and Baton Rouge have already returned a total of 77 indictments, charging 57 individuals and 6 companies with criminal wrongdoing.

Last September we recommended legislation to strengthen the present inspection system. In mid-February Secretary Butz proposed changes in the regulations plus an affirmative action plan calling for extensive internal audit procedures by the grain exporters. Recently also, more than 200 new Federal employees completed a special 5-week grain inspection course. This new force will supervise the work of the private and state grain inspectors.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Agriculture presently licenses State and private organizations to inspect grain for a fee paid by the buyer. The Department does not have authority under present law to make initial first inspections, only appeal inspections.

> 4/26/76 SGM

INTERVIEW WITH NEWSPAPER FARM EDITORS ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, April 27, 1976

10:15 A.M.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

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