The original documents are located in Box 128, folder “Friedersdorf, Max (2)” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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February 12, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: RON NESEN

We have tentatively scheduled an interview with the Boston Globe for next week. I will be in touch with the various editors to arrange an appropriate list of participants.
February 12, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: RON NESSEN

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
February 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN
THRU: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: JOE JENCKES
SUBJECT: Request from Senator Edward Brooke

Senator Edward Brooke (R-Massachusetts) has contacted me on behalf of Robert L. Healy, Executive Editor, The Boston Globe, who has requested an interview with the President. From the enclosed correspondence, it appears that Mr. Healy has contacted the White House on his own and is now seeking Senator Brooke's support.

The Senator has personally indicated his strong interest in having this interview granted. He, of course, is most supportive of this request from the Massachusetts press, but he has also indicated that The Boston Globe will indeed give the President fair Northeastern coverage.

Please let me know as soon as possible the likelihood of scheduling this interview as the Senator is most anxious on this one.

Many thanks.

cc: Bill Nicholson
December 22, 1975

Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Old Senate Office Building
Washington, DC

Dear Ed:

We're pushing for an interview with President Ford, in Washington, with Dave Nyhan, Marty Nolan, Matt Storin and myself.

It might be worth pointing out to him that it is likely that the only newspaper that will be giving him a good shake in New Hampshire is the Globe.

At any rate, anything that you can do to further this effort would be appreciated.

Best,

Robert L. Healy
Executive Editor

RLH/k
February 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:  RON NESSEN/
BILL NICHOLSON

FROM:  MAX FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT:  M.C. John McCollister (R-NEB)

Congressman McCollister, announced candidate for Senator Hruska's Senate seat (Hruska is retiring), called yesterday to urge the President to accept an invitation from the Nebraska Broadcasters and Sigma Delta Chi to participate in a news conference in Carney, Nebraska on March 26th.

McCollister says this would be weeks before the Nebraska primary, very helpful to Republican candidates, usually draws 100 - 300 news-types, but if the President were to participate, could promise a much larger crowd.

I advised McCollister to have the organization send in a formal invitation to the President, and I would be pleased to make his strong personal interest known to the powers that be.

bcc:  Jack Marsh
Dick Cheney
Vern Loen
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT: Numerical Breakdown by Subject of Your House Votes

Using the voting and attendance record which you inserted in the Congressional Record each year, Bob Wolthuis has numerically tabulated your votes by subject. Of necessity the subject breakdown is somewhat arbitrary. Also, the appropriation votes were counted as appropriation votes except for defense. All amendments to defense appropriation bills were counted as defense votes while final passage was counted as an appropriation vote.

Votes on Defense and Foreign Policy Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<td>Foreign Policy</td>
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<td>Foreign Trade</td>
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Votes on Fiscal & Economic Issues

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<td>Taxes &amp; Postal Rates</td>
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Votes of Human Resources & Assistance

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<td>Housing</td>
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<td>Civil Rights</td>
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<td>Social Security</td>
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<td>Medicare, Medicaid &amp; Drug Control</td>
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<td>Welfare Assistance &amp; Food Stamps</td>
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<td>Veterans Benefits</td>
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<td>Job Training</td>
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<td>Fed. Employee Wages &amp; Retirement</td>
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**Votes on Energy Environment & Transportation**

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**Votes on General Issues & House Procedures**

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<td>Judicial</td>
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<td>House Procedures</td>
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**Grand Totals**

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<tr>
<td>Domestic Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiscal &amp; Economic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Resources &amp; Assistance</td>
<td>889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy, Environment &amp; Transportation</td>
<td>225</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Issues &amp; House Procedures</td>
<td>903</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Domestic Total</strong></td>
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**Grand Total**

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<td><strong>3618</strong></td>
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</table>
February 21, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN
FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
SUBJECT: M.C. Clarence "Bud" Brown (R-OHIO)

Bud Brown has requested the President appear on a talk show with a Phil Donohue, a syndicated network production owned by AVCO out of Chicago.

Bud says that Donohue has MC'd a fundraiser for him; is a straight guy who doesn't insult or put down his guests.

Donohue, of course, would be willing to come down here to tape his show.

Bill Gorog is familiar with Donohue, Brown says, and Rog Morton has appeared on the show.

Brown says if the President can't do it, Donohue would settle for Mrs. Ford.

I know the problems, what is your guidance?

cc: Jack Marsh
    Vern Loen
NOTE FOR: Max Friedersdorf.

FROM: Ron Nessen

May I have your recommendation.

R.H.W.
March 2, 1976

Dear Mr. Nessen,

On behalf of the Republican Women of Capitol Hill, it is my pleasure to invite you to address a meeting of our organization during this eventful year of 1976.

Our luncheon meetings are held at the Capitol Hill Club on the fourth Wednesday of each month that Congress is in session. However, with sufficient advance notice, our schedule is flexible and I would enjoy the opportunity to work with you and/or your staff on determining a date that could be worked into your busy schedule. These luncheons begin at Noon and end promptly at 1 P.M. with the last half hour being reserved for the 'speaker of the day.' Ordinarily there is a question and answer session of approximately fifteen minutes.

In the past we have been privileged to hear Robert T. Hartmann, Max Friedersdorf and Pat Lindh, among others, on the Administration's goals and achievements. We would be particularly pleased to have "the spokesman for President Ford" tell us about his job—the transition from the media to Press Secretary: its problems and its joys.

With thanks for your consideration,

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Dorothy K. Cavanaugh
Immediate Past President

The Honorable Ron Nessen
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500
NOTE FOR: Max Friedeisdorf.
FROM: Ron Nessen

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With thanks for your consideration,

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Dorothy K. Cavanaugh
Immediate Past President
March 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN
FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
SUBJECT: Speaking Engagement

At Dallas on April 1, the Press Club of Dallas, SMU Journalism Department, and the Society of Professional Journalists, are sponsoring the Southwest Journalism Forum with newsmen from throughout the Southwest scheduled to attend.

Bob Mann, chairman of the SMU Journalism Department, will be contacting you soonest with an invitation to be the principle speaker.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT: Legislative Schedule

The House Republican Policy Committee has released the attached legislative forecast for the remainder of the Second Session of the 94th Congress.

bcc: Bob Hartmann
     Jack Marsh
     Dick Cheney
     Jim Cannon
     Jim Lynn
     Alan Greenspan
     Bill Seidman
     Frank Zarb
     Jim Connor
     Ron Nessen
     Phil Buchen
     Bill Baroody
SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION

PROBABLE FLOOR ACTION BEFORE EASTER RECESS (April 14)

   Administration prefers simple reestablishment. Veto possible.


   identical to vetoed H.R. 25. Another veto expected.

OTHER MEASURES EXPECTED DURING 1976:

1. Unemployment Compensation - H.R. 10210 - reported 12/16/75 - will be brought up after
   May 15 budget resolution. Extends benefits to farm, domestic, state and local workers,
   raises wage base and tax rate.)

2. First Concurrent Budget Resolution - May 15 deadline

3. Second Concurrent Budget Resolution - September 15 deadline


5. Government in the Sunshine - H.R. 11656 (S.5) - reported 3/8/76, referred to Judiciary
   for 30 days, Republicans have 6 major objections, 22 minor. Veto quite possible.

6. Minimum wage increase - markup in progress. A "must" item for Majority leadership.

7. Guaranteed Jobs - Humphrey/Hawkins bill - a key Democratic Leadership and campaign item

   measure without countercyclical aid.

   Senate passed S. 1267, is considering S. 2298.

10. Outer Continental Shelf - Select Committee markup in progress. Senate action completed

11. Clean Air Act extension - H.R. 10498 - House markup in (slow) progress. 3-yr. freeze
    on auto emission standards adopted 23-20. Other issues: stationary sources, air
    quality deterioration,


13. Revenue Sharing* - markup began 3/11/76 on "working paper." Democratic Leadership
    wants bill on floor by 5/15. Senate waiting for House.

14. Education omnibus bill - higher ed. institutional and student aid, NIE, vocational ed.


16. Estate Tax* - Ways and Means to begin hearings on President's proposal.


Policy Committee has met on these issues.
Mentioned in State of the Union Message
18. **Food Stamp Reform** - Hearings underway, Administration guidelines revision proposed.


21. **Copyright Revision** - H.R. 2223 - Senate has passed S. 22, House markup in progress.


26. **Health Insurance, catastrophic**

27. **Medicaid bloc grants to States**

28. **Tax incentives for Business**

29. **Bloc grants for Education**

30. **Bloc grants for social services**

**MEASURES ACTED UPON BY HOUSE, AWAITING SENATE OR CONFERENCE ACTION:**


+5. **Natural Gas Deregulation** - H.R. 9464


12. **Black Lung** - H.R. 10760
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT: John Rhodes/Bernie Sisk/Frank Horton

The Congressmen now recommend that instead of you phoning the three owners of major league baseball teams, that you instead call only Commissioner Bowie Kuhn, Commissioner of Major League Baseball, to express an interest in major league baseball returning to Washington, D.C.

The Commissioner's phone numbers are Code 212-265-6418 and Code 212-586-7400.
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.
MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX L. FRIEDERSDОРF
FROM: WILLIAM T. KENDALL
SUBJECT: Upcoming Legislation

In compliance with your request, the following is a list of bills likely to be considered over the next several weeks:

S. 3219, The Clean Air Act Amendments
Reported by Public Works Committee

H.R. 13172, Second Supplemental Appropriations
On Floor next week

S. Res. 400, To Establish Standing Committee on Intelligence Activities
On floor next week

S. 2035, Nuclear Fuel Assurance Act
In full committee mark-up next week

H.R. 9771, Airports and Airways
In conference

H.R. 8532, Parens Patriae
In Senate Judiciary Committee

H.R. 10612, Tax Reform Act
In Committee mark-up

S. 2662, Foreign Military Sales
Veto override attempt possible next week

S. Con. Res. 109, First Concurrent Budget Resolution
Out of conference--awaiting final vote

S. 3105, ERDA Authorization
Reported by Interior Committee
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Bill Title</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 12970</td>
<td>Three year Extension of Economic Development Program</td>
<td>Ordered reported from Public Works Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 2532</td>
<td>Energy Independence Authority Act</td>
<td>Hearings begin next week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 422</td>
<td>Youth Camp Safety</td>
<td>On Senate Calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 2477</td>
<td>Lobbying Activities</td>
<td>On Senate Calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 1284</td>
<td>Antitrust Law</td>
<td>On Senate Calendar</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. 510</td>
<td>Medical Devices</td>
<td>In Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R. 12203</td>
<td>Foreign Assistance Appropriations</td>
<td>In Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 2498</td>
<td>Small Business Act Amendments</td>
<td>In Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 3091</td>
<td>Timber Management Bill</td>
<td>Ordered reported by Senate Agriculture Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. 2310</td>
<td>Natural Gas</td>
<td>Pearson, Stevenson, et al, reportedly have arrived at an informal agreement reconciling some differences that have blocked progress on this bill. Floor action expected shortly.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
May 12, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SENIOR STAFF

FROM:   MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT:  Upcoming Legislation in Congress

Attached, for your information, are lists of pending legislation scheduled for action in the upcoming weeks.
There follows a list of major legislation which it is anticipated could pass the House of Representatives and be sent to the White House, after appropriate Senate action or conferences, prior to the July recess.

**Bills in Conference**

1. H. R. 3979  
   Indian Claims Commission, '76 appropriation authorization.

2. H. R. 7656  
   Beef Research and Information Act.

3. H. R. 9852  
   Increase maximum loan amounts for purchase of mobile homes.

4. S. 510  
   Medical Devices Amendments.

5. S. 2498  
   Small Business Act and Small Business Investment Act.

6. H. R. 8650  
   Energy conservation in buildings.

7. S. 586  
   Costal Zone Management Act Amendments.

8. H. R. 12203  
   Foreign Assistance Appropriations for 1976.
Bills in Conference (continued)

10. H.R. 9771  Airport and Airway Development Act Amendments.
13. H.R. 7108  Authorize appropriations for EPA office of research and development.
17. H.R. 8410  Amend Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921.

Bills Schedule for House Consideration, Week of May 10

Bills Schedule for Week of May 10 (continued)


Bills with Rule Requests Pending or Granted

4. H. R. 11552  Voter Registration Administration.

Bills on House Union Calendar

2. H. R. 7887  To expedite Food Stamp certification.
Bills on House Union Calendar (continued)


5. H. R. 12545  Authorize additional appropriations for thirteen flood control and navigation river basin programs.


7. H. R. 12664  Revise and extend Public Health Service Act relating to emergency medical services systems.

8. H. R. 11193  Amend Title 18, U. S. C., for more effective gun control.


Bills in Committee Mark-Ups

Agriculture


H. R. 10903  Amend Cotton Research and Promotion Act.
Bills in Committee Mark-Ups (continued)

**Agriculture**


H. R. 9288 and 10988  Amend the Perishable Commodities Act.

**Armed Services**

H. R. 7486  Defense Department Officer Personnel Management Act.

**Banking, Currency, and Housing**


H. R. _____  Rhodesian Chrome.

**Education and Labor**


H. R. 2525  Indian Health Care Improvement.

H. R. 10760  Black Lung Benefits.


H. R. 13555  Transfer from Interior mine safety functions to Department of Labor.

H. R. 10138  Youth Adult Conservation Corps Act.

**Government Operations**

H. R. 13367  General revenue sharing.
Bills in Committee Mark-Ups (continued)

Interior

H. R. 9719  Payments in lieu of taxes.

International Relations


Interstate and Foreign Commerce

H. R. 11570  Department of Commerce authorization.
H. R. 7664  and S. 3149  Toxic Substances.
H. R. 10498  Amendments to Clean Air Act ordered reported.
H. R. 12461  Electric Utility and Rate Regulation.

Judiciary

H. R. 9182  Food Industry Antitrust Reports.
H. R. 2223  Copyright Law Revision.

Merchant Marine and Fisheries

H. R. 8471  and 10581  Alcoholic Beverages in Canal Zone.
**Bills in Committee Mark-Ups (continued)**

### Science and Technology

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<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
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<tr>
<td>H. R. 12112</td>
<td>Synthetic Fuel Loan Guarantees.</td>
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### Ways and Means

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<tr>
<td>H. R.</td>
<td>Aid to Families with Dependent Children.</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. R. 13469</td>
<td>Administrative Improvements to Medicare Program.</td>
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### Addendum

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<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 28, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: WARREN HENDRIKS
FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
SUBJECT: Senator Dewey Bartlett (R-Okla.)

Senator Bartlett requests a high level administration speaker for an event at Lake Tahoe, Nevada on Monday, June 21.

The event is a convention of top officials from the Don Rey Media who meet every other year.

This group represents newspapers and radio and television outlets in such states as Oklahoma, Arkansas, California, Hawaii and a number of other areas.

The chain includes numerous small to medium newspapers in at least half a dozen states.

Senator Bartlett said the request for a speaker listed the following in priority order: Rumsfeld, Simon, Marty Hoffman, Sisco, Ellsworth and Habib.

The contact for the event is Mr. Doug Fox of Tulsa who is attorney for the chain and his phone number is Code 918-582-9201.

Senator Bartlett called personally on this. Marianne Freeman is the contact in his office.

Please keep me advised of action on this request.

cc: Jack Marsh
    Ron Nessen
    Bill Kendall
Attached is a letter which I have received from Rep. Joseph M. McDade in which he requests that a reporter from Pennsylvania be allowed to attend a Presidential press conference.

I would appreciate your directing a response directly to Congressman McDade.
August 2, 1976

Dear Joe:

Thank you for your letter of July 23 in which you request that Mr. Gene Paluzzi be permitted to attend a Presidential press conference.

I have forwarded your letter to Mr. Ron Nessen for a direct reply. You will hear further as soon as possible.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Charles Leppert, Jr.
Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Joseph M. McDade
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

CL/jm

bcc: w/incoming and memo to Ron Nessen for direct reply.
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<th>CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>Joseph M. McDade to Charles Lepper Jr. regarding Gene Paluzzi attending a presidential press conference</td>
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**DATE**: 7/28/70

**RESTRICTION**: C

**FILE LOCATION**: Ron Nessen Papers, Box 128, "Friedersdorf, Max 127"

**RESTRICTION CODES**

- (A) Closed by Executive Order 12356 governing access to national security information.
- (B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- (C) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift.

**GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

GSA FORM 7122 (REV. 5-82)
August 7, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT: M.C. Tom Railsback (R-ILL)/John Connally

Representative Tom Railsback called Friday evening from Illinois to apologize to the President and "explain" the furor over his and Representative Bill Cohen's comments about John Connally.

"I feel badly and want to let the President know what happened," Railsback commented.

Railsback said he was being interviewed by Bob Owens, a reporter for Jack Anderson, and the vice-presidency nomination was mentioned. Railsback said he commented that he had reservations about Connally because of the milk fund and Owens said, "What are you going to do about it," and Railsback responded that he has asked for an appointment to see the President. Jack Anderson reported this the next morning.

Railsback also indicated he was sending a letter of explanation to the President. The letter is attached.

Railsback indicated he will support the President regardless of who is nominated for vice-president.

bcc: Jack Marsh, Dick Cheney, Don Nessen, Phil Buchen
August 6, 1976

The Honorable Gerald Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I believe some explanation is due you regarding recent press accounts concerning my feelings about John Connally as a potential Vice-Presidential candidate.

It never was my intention to place this matter in the public eye. The current situation developed after a discussion with Bob Owens, a reporter for columnist Jack Anderson, who was surveying Republican Members of Congress concerning Presidential and Vice-Presidential politics. The reporter asked me my opinion of John Connally as a potential candidate for the Vice-Presidency. I replied that I have certain reservations about Mr. Connally, particularly in light of the fact that the Democrats appear to be making Watergate one of their main campaign themes (by use of innuendoes, implications, and references to labels such as "the Nixon-Ford Administration", etc.) Asked what I was going to do about my concerns, I replied that I had requested a meeting with you to present to you materials the House Committee had gathered in the course of the impeachment proceedings. I still believe that these materials are very relevant to your consideration of John Connally, particularly Book VI-Part 2 of the published hearings before the Judiciary Committee dealing with political contributions by milk producers.

Subsequently, Jack Anderson reported in his radio show of July 30 that Congressman Bill Cohen and I fear Mr. Connally would hurt the ticket if he became the Vice-Presidential nominee, and would express our reservations to you. With that, Mr. Cohen and I have been besieged with phone calls from the media, which I believe has blown this matter all out of proportion.

I am not trying to substitute my judgment for yours, nor am I involved in a "stop-Connally movement", although he would not be my choice. I did want you to know my concerns. I have asked Tom Mooney of the Judiciary Committee staff to compile the relevant material to be delivered to you for your consideration.

I hope this explains the situation, and best of luck at the Convention!

Sincerely,

Tom Railsback
Member of Congress
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
SUBJECT: H.R. 12987 - Emergency Jobs Program Extension Act

The Jobs Bill mentioned by Ron Nessen in our meeting with the President today passed the Senate by 67-11 yesterday.

It has already cleared the House and is now ready for conference.

The Senate bill authorizes additional funding through fiscal year 1977 for the public service jobs program under Title VI of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA).

Our position was strongly opposed to Senate bill and recommended a phase out of the current program in fiscal year 1977 due to the pace of the economic recovery which indicates emergency programs are no longer necessary.

The recent increase in unemployment hurt our vote in the Senate.

The President requested $1.7 billion to phase out the program. The House and Senate bills both would cost about $4.5 billion. Supporters assert the bill involves 260,000 jobs.

bcc: Ron Nessen
      Jack Marsh
      Dick Cheney
August 18, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR JACK MARSH

FROM MAX FRIEDERSDORF

Through the White House, a Presidential telegram and flowers have been sent to Salt Lake City relative to the death of Senator Jake Garn's wife.

In the event the President would like to call the Senator, Garn can be reached at one of the following numbers:

(303) 469-0599 (Denver)
801-583-1074 (Salt Lake City)

The deceased's name was Hazel; the funeral is on Saturday.

I am attaching a clipping from today's Kansas City Star concerning the accident.

cc: Ron Nessen
The wife of Sen. E. J. (Jake) Garn, a Utah Republican, was killed in a 1-car accident about 4 p.m. yesterday 12 miles east of Sidney, Neb., as she was driving three of the four Garn children to their home in McLean, Va.

The children, Susan, 16, Jeffery Paul, 10, and Ellen Marie, 12, were asleep at the time of the accident and were treated for minor injuries, according to the Nebraska State Patrol. Senator Garn was in Salt Lake City at the time of the accident. After he was notified he flew to Sidney to pick up the children.

The state patrol said Mrs. Garn, 40, apparently fell asleep at the wheel. The car swerved off the eastbound lane of I-80, the patrol said, then went back onto the road and swerved into the median. The car overturned and Mrs. Garn was thrown into the westbound lane. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Garn, a former mayor of Salt Lake City, is an outspoken critic of state and federal bureaucracy. He was elected to the Senate in 1974 and supports President Gerald Ford for the Repub.
October 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: SHEILA WEIDERFELD
FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
SUBJECT: M.C. Clarence "Bud" Brown (R-OHIO)

Congressman Brown has requested Mrs. Ford appear on WHIO-TV, Dayton, Ohio, for a 1/2 hour panel show.

Brown received the request from Dick Reiser and Jack Hurley of WHIO-TV.

The station is one of the Cox chain, Brown stated, and would be shown on other Cox stations. He described the station as "friendly."

Brown requested that the station be contacted directly:
AC513/254-5311

cc: Jack Marsh
    Ron Hassen
    Susan Porter
TO: Ron Nessen
FROM: Max L. Friedersdorf
For Your Information
Please Handle
Please See Me
Comments, Please
Other
Letter to the Editor:

It is unfortunate that President Ford once again has been publicly convicted before much thought was given to the content of his statement on Eastern Europe during the Ford-Carter Debate. As President of the United States, Mr. Ford stated he considered Poland, Yugoslavia and Romania as examples of countries in Eastern Europe which were free. He did not say they were free of the Soviet sphere of influence, but he did state they were sovereign nations even though each is led by a communist form of government.

There is no argument as to the independence of Yugoslavia for Marshall Tito and the Yugoslavian people have made that abundantly clear.

The Romanian government has for years separated its foreign policy in large part from the Soviet Union and has sided with the People's Republic of China in the disputes within the Communist block.

Poland, which rests geographically between the Soviet Union and the East German Republic, faces a unique problem. She has been governed by communists ever since the end of World War II and one would conclude that as a result of this combined with the geographic location, she would be a satellite state of the first order. Yet, the Soviet and Communist system have been unable to impose a collectivist system on the farmers of that country because of their own rugged individualism and desire for freedom from government control. Almost eighty per cent of the agricultural community in Poland still remains a free enterprise system. The relative freedom of citizens in Warsaw and other major cities is such that the Russians are hesitant to even allow their troops stationed in the countryside outside of Warsaw to have liberty within Warsaw. Russian troops are said to be rotated to either East Germany or the Soviet Union almost every thirty days because of the fear of their contamination by the free minded Polish people.
For the President of the United States to concede on nationwide television to an audience consisting of our allies and enemies, sympathizers and detractors throughout the world, as well as our own people, that all of Eastern Europe was conceded to be a Soviet Lake would have been immoral. Any hope of freedom for these peoples would have been abandoned. This type of disclosure is an inherent danger in an open debate in a free society and must be expected. We cannot, therefore, condemn the President when he declares that to his mind and to the minds of the American people that Eastern Europe does not belong to the Soviet Union and that there may yet be a day when these people may extricate themselves from the sphere of influence but not yet the ownership of the Soviet Union. Mr. Ford is to be commended for taking the stand that he, as President of the United States, considers the people and the nations of Eastern Europe to be free.