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memo w/att.	<p>From Watson to Owen (2 pp.) re: Memo. to The President on Energy</p> <p><i>opened per RAC NLC-126-22-17-1-8 11/10/14</i></p>	8/29/80	A

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Rick H.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 29, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR HENRY OWEN

FROM: JACK WATSON *Jack*

SUBJECT: Your Memorandum to the President dated 8/27/80

There are some very good suggestions in your memorandum to the President dated August 27, 1980. Please coordinate closely with Stu, Anne Wexler and Gene Eidenberg on any discussions concerning a coal export conference. When we have an announcement to make on the Energy Security Corporation, we will do some kind of an event as you suggest.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8/28/80

TO: JACK WATSON
FROM: RICK HUTCHESON



Henry's memo is forwarded to you rather than to the President, for any appropriate action.

~~CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT~~

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ESDN; NLC-126-22-17-1-8

BY JKS NARA DATE 1/2/19

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

INFORMATION

THE WHITE HOUSE

August 27, 1980

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: HENRY OWEN *HO*
SUBJECT: Energy (U)

At our budget meeting with you in July, we spent some time discussing the fact that energy was an area in which we had an outstanding record. Here are some ideas as to how to make this record better known -- through actions that make substantive sense:

-- We should consider holding a White House coal-export conference at which executives of the coal companies, railroads, investment banks, port authorities, and the US agencies concerned could agree on concrete actions to improve our coal exports. A similar meeting in Australia proved the key to setting in motion that country's coal-export program, which is probably the most effective in the world today. I am discussing this idea with Charles Duncan, John Sawhill, and others. (C)

-- When the head of the Energy Security Corporation is appointed, you should announce his appointment to an East Room full of the relevant members of the Congress, oil and other energy businessmen, and ambassadors of Summit countries. You could use the occasion to review for them and the TV audience what is being done by the US to reduce US oil consumption and increase US production of alternative energy sources, and how the main industrial countries are cooperating to the same ends. (C)

-- We should explore whether progress could be made toward a long-term understanding between oil-importing and oil-exporting countries regarding oil prices and production. This is a long shot; the obstacles are enormous. Nonetheless, the possibility of such an understanding may have been strengthened by the industrial countries' recent energy Summit decisions. In any event, the OPEC nations are themselves moving toward a long-term pricing and production strategy, and this may present opportunities. We may have a better feel for all this after Charles Duncan's unpublicized September meeting with Saudi Energy Minister Yamani. (C)

The public and media tend to focus on problems that are getting worse; hence energy tends to recede in public attention. We should remind people that this is a critical war we are on the way to winning. To this end I hope that, in addition to steps such as outlined above, you and the Vice President will hit this issue hard in public on every occasion -- pointing out that none of our other domestic or foreign problems can be solved unless our attack on this key problem is carried through to completion by the policies that this Administration has set in motion. (C)

The development of effective US and international energy programs is probably the single most important achievement of this Administration; it bears critically on prospects for meeting the two problems that concern people most: beating inflation, and enhancing our national security. We have an important success on our hands; we should make more of it. (C)

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