

Correspondence – National Treasury Employment Union

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NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION

Suite 1101 — 1730 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 785-4411

August 21, 1974

The Honorable Jimmy Carter
Campaign Chairman
Democratic National Committee
P.O. Box 1524
Atlanta, Georgia 30301

Dear Jimmy:

Thank you for writing me to express my views as to the party and its candidates, particularly as they relate to the 1974 campaign.

As a lifelong Democrat with a considerable interest in the national legislative process, together with experience in personal contact with elected representatives and their staffs at the Washington level, I have only one suggestion relating to the sense of alienation and exclusion cited in your letter to me dated July 17, 1974.

The matter is not Watergate nor any other pious handwringing. Rather, it concerns elemental definition -- What National Democratic Party?

I represent the interests of working people in my job as a union president. For at least forty years, Democrats have been credited with at least a somewhat sympathetic view towards the needs of these people.

How does this square with the performance (not always to be equated with the voting record which can be deceiving), of elected DEMOCRATIC congressmen and senators from the SOUTH? That, if you will pardon the expression, is where the Party leaves National out of it, and goes south with the votes.

In sum, I feel that a Democrat can never duplicate the sense of alienation felt in the company of a southern or southwestern "Democrat".

I am grateful for the personal contributions which you have made and, I am sure, will continue to make in uniting the Democratic Party in principle.

Sincerely yours,

Vincent L. Connery
National President
National Headquarters, Washington, D.C.