

8/4/79

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THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE

Saturday - August 4, 1979

8:00

Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski - The Oval Office.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 4, 1979

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ANNE WEXLER *AW*

SUBJECT:

Activities Report -- Week Ending
August 3, 1979

1. Follow-up with Religious Leaders on Energy. I talked with Rabbi Mark Tannenbaum this week. He is meeting with an inter-denominational group of religious leaders to plan preliminary steps for a national conference in Washington on energy. The focus of the conference will be:
 - a. The theology of waste -- discussions of the role of the church as community leader in an age of scarcity.
 - b. The role of the church in energy conservation -- practical steps to be taken by individuals, by businesses, by institutions and how community churches can highlight these steps.
 - c. Using the national conference as a kickoff for local conferences on the same subject to be held through the fall on an interdenominational basis.

Rabbi Tannenbaum and the other leaders have requested your consideration of an appearance at the conference. We will continue to work closely with them.

2. Energy Outreach. Stu and I have been having a series of meetings with business, labor, trade associations and public interest groups to develop a working support group for the tax, the Board and the Corporation. The basis for a coalition is developing. You know about the Speaker's Bureau, and we are now bringing to fruition the first energy conservation projects.

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3. SALT II. We continue to gain endorsements from groups and prominent individuals and we are working with NSC and WHCL to provide witnesses for the hearings. The pre-Summit briefings are paying off here. In addition, a video tape from those briefings, featuring Zbig and you, is being made available to those requesting it for public education purposes. The next East Room briefings, scheduled for August 15 and 16, will focus on Florida, Nebraska, Maine and Virginia. We work continuously with Americans for SALT and their "grass roots" operation, developed during their July 19 meeting. It is beginning to get well organized in most states and will be the source of names for these briefings as will the relevant Senators. We have identified where supporting businesses have plants and expect that sector to begin to be active during September.
4. Urban Legislation. A strong effort by the National Governors Association, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National League of Cities and the AFL-CIO was a major reason for victories in the Senate on countercyclical revenue sharing and the EDA legislation. The public interest groups praised the White House for its strong leadership on both bills.
5. Polish-Americans. The feed back from the meeting was all positive. We are working to get pictures and a story in the daily Polish papers in Chicago, Detroit and New York as well as other urban papers.



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON 20220

August 3, 1979

Dear Mr. President:

Your nomination of Bill Miller as Secretary of the Treasury has been confirmed by the Senate, and he is now available to serve. Bill and I have had an opportunity to assure a smooth transition for his taking office.

Thus, the terms of my resignation have been fulfilled, and I want to confirm to you that I will cease serving as Secretary of the Treasury at midnight, August 4, 1979.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

W. Michael Blumenthal

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. President:

Jim McIntyre would like to see you for 5 minutes today on a budget matter.

approve disapprove

Phil

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

04 Aug 79

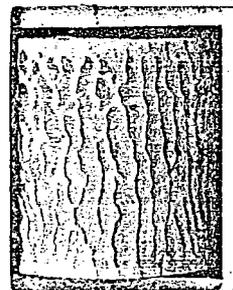
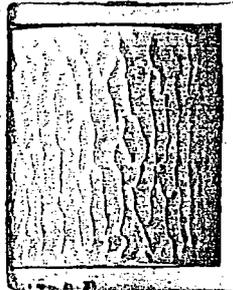
Tim Kraft
Arnie Miller

The attached was returned in the
President's outbox today and is
forwarded to you for appropriate
handling.

Rick Hutcheson

RE: SELECTIVE SERVICE

3304



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	LOG IN/TO PRESIDENT TODAY
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	BUTLER
	H. CARTER
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	GAMMILL <i>Ann</i>
	HARDEN
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	LINDER
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	WARREN
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	ADAMS
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	BERGLAND
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	BROWN
	CALIFANO
	HARRIS
	KREPS
	MARSHALL
	SCHLESINGER
	STRAUSS
	VANCE

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

C

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

TIM KRAFT ^{TK}
ARNIE MILLER ~~AM~~

SUBJECT: Director, Selective Service System (SSS)

OMB and DoD believe that our strategy of opposing reinstating registration and the draft is highly dependent on our ability to demonstrate that we have a tested, reliable stand-by manpower mobilization plan. They strongly feel that we must have a strong, capable Director who is backed by the President if we hope to have credibility with the Congress on this issue.

Currently the Selective Service System (SSS) is headed by an Acting Director (Peter Schuck, a career employee), who has come under increasing criticism from DoD, OMB and the Congress for ineffective performance. We had agreed with OMB not to fill the position until OMB conducted a reorganization study of the SSS. Once that study, which describes a comprehensive two year management agenda for the agency, was completed earlier this year we began to search for a permanent Director.

We looked for a person with the following characteristics:

- . demonstrated systems design capability
- . commitment to equity and due process
- . comfortable working out of the limelight, and not desirous of creating and running an operating program (e.g. the draft)
- . understanding of but not captive of the military and its manpower system and needs
- . comprehension of the complexity and difficulty of mobilizing for military purposes in the current social environment.

After reviewing many candidates, we recommend that you appoint Bernard Rostker as Director of the Selective Service System.

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Rostker, 35, now serves as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy, responsible for policy development and program evaluation in all areas of Navy and Marine Corps military and civilian manpower, personnel and training. He is a superb systems designer and analyst, and oversaw the development of your military pension system redesign, implementation of the Navy's Senior Executive Service Management System, and reorganization of the Navy's personnel and equal employment opportunity management structure.

Rostker is a New York City native, received his B.S. at New York University and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Economics at Syracuse. He served as an Army Captain from 1968-1970, and worked as a Pentagon systems analyst for Frank Sullivan, now Senator Nunn's Armed Service Subcommittee Staff Director. Before joining the Administration he was an economist at Rand from 1970-1977 and directed research and policy studies on the Air Force's personnel and training programs.

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend that you nominate Bernard Rostker as Director of the Selective Service System. Zbig, Secretary Brown, and John White concur.

 ✓ Approve

 Disapprove



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May 1979

VITA

Bernard Daniel Rostker
9419 Brian Jac Lane
Great Falls, VA 22066
Home Phone: (703)759-3912
Office Phone: (202)695-2248

Born: New York City, February 1, 1944

Education: BS, Education and Economics, New York University,
1964
MS, Economics, Syracuse University, 1966
PhD, Economics, Syracuse University, 1970

Military Service: Captain, U.S. Army, 1968-1970, including:
Economist, Office of the Assistant Secretary
of Defense (Systems Analysis)

Current Security Clearance: Top Secret

Current Position: Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy
(Manpower & Reserve Affairs), the Department
of the Navy, 1977 to Present.(GS-18)
(Responsible to the Secretary of the Navy for
policy development and program evaluation in all
areas of Navy and Marine Corps military and civil-
ian manpower, personnel and training. As such
formulates prepared testimony and presents the
Department's programs before the Armed Services
and the Appropriations Committees of the Congress,
and represents the Navy and Marine Corps on various
steering groups and oversight panels within the
Department of Defense and with the Office of Manage-
ment and Budget. In performing these functions,
directly supervise four Deputy Assistant Secretaries
of the Navy for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Equal
Opportunity and Civilian Personnel, and their pro-
fessional staffs--approximately 35 people.

Among the major projects I personally under-
took during the first two years as PDASN were:

- Design of a major revision to the military pension system which was approved by the Secretary of Defense and the President and submitted to the Congress in the Spring of 1979.

- Organized, designed and supervised the implementation of the Department of the Navy's Senior Executive Service Management System.

- Reorganized the Departments civilian personnel and equal opportunity management structure.

- Prepared a comprehensive report to the Congress on the Navy's manpower and personnel problems and supervised follow-on remedial action.

Previous
Position:

Economist, The Rand Corporation, 1970-1977

Program Director, Project Air Force Manpower, Personnel and Training Program, The Rand Corporation, 1972-1977.

(Responsible for development, implementation and management of a research and policy studies program for the U. S. Air Force. In 1977, the program employed 29 full and part time professionals--about 23 professional manyears. The program provided major policy research on such issues as the future structure of the Air Reserve Forces, alternatives to the then current officer personnel management system, new strategies for training personnel to maintain advanced technology aircraft, alternative management systems for technical training and the development of future Air Force health delivery systems. The program supported the Air Staff's manpower and personnel agencies as well as the Tactical Air Command, the Air Training Command, and the Air Force Surgeon General.)

Other
Professional
Experience:

Consultant, Mershon Center, Ohio State University, 1974-75

Consultant, Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation, Social and Rehabilitation Services, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1973-74

Economist, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Systems Analysis) 1968-70

Instructor, Urban Studies Institute, Syracuse University, 1967

Research Assistant, Metropolitan Studies Center, Syracuse University, 1966-67

Selected
Publications:

The Economics of Multiple Job Holding, *American Economic Review*, Vol. 6, No. 3, June 1976 (with Robert Shishko)

Technical Success, Political Failure: The Incentive Pay Plan for California Job Agents, *Policy Analysis*, Vol. 2, No. 4, Fall 1976 (with David Greenberg and Al Lipson)

Logistics--Its Planning, Programming and Budgeting in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, *Selected Readings in Defense Economics and Decisionmaking*, Naval War College, January 1976

An Evaluation - Management Information System for Vocational Rehabilitation, P-5404, The Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, March 1975

The Air Reserves Forces and the All-Volunteer Force: A Statement Before the Defense Manpower Commission, P-5359, the Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, January 1975

Military Manpower in a Changing Environment, *Rand: The 25th Anniversary Volume*, The Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, April 1974 (with Richard Cooper)

Honors:

Omicron Delta Epsilon, Economics Honorary
U.S. Department of Labor, Management Administration,
Dissertation Fellow
Syracuse University, Maxwell Scholar
New York State Regents Scholar

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

04 Aug 79

Secretary Marshall
Arnold Packer

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the President's outbox today
and is forwarded to you for
appropriate handling.

Rick Hutcheson

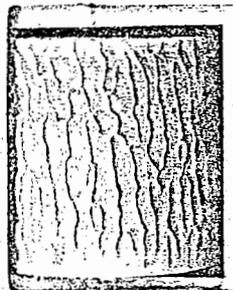
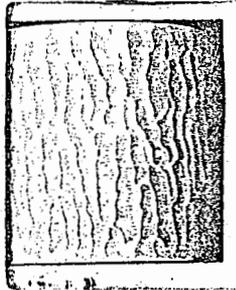
cc: Secretary-Designate Miller

PERSONAL + ADMINISTRATIVELY
CONFIDENTIAL

bcc of both memos to JORDAN.

793311

MARSHALL, PACKER + MILLER RECEIVED
COPY OF TOP MARSHALL MEMO ONLY.



U.S. Department of Labor

Assistant Secretary for
Policy, Evaluation and Research
Washington, D.C. 20210



MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ARNOLD PACKER

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Arnold Packer".

SUBJECT: Newspaper Leaks

At the meeting you held with the Assistant Secretaries you suggested that we communicate with you personally when we felt strongly moved to do so.

I appreciate and share your concern over the leaking of the EPG forecast memo to The New York Times. Although I believe that the incident raises issues much more important than who gave the memo to the Times, let me assure you that I did not do it. I am also as sure as one can be in these cases that no one within the Labor Department did so either.

I am less concerned about the accusations than about how they might affect economic policymaking in general or the Labor Department's participation in that activity. I believe the Administration has a unique opportunity at this time to achieve a national accord on economic policy. As you suggested in your Camp David speech, the Nation needs to pull together and believe in itself and one another if we are to solve our terribly complicated problems. The Labor Department shares that view fully and recognizes how important the Administration's credibility is to achieving consensus. Therefore, I am also dismayed by the leak.

I believe, however, that it is less the leaks themselves than the desire to prevent disclosure of the Administration's analysis of the current economic situation that could ultimately undermine credibility. How can we convince the American public that there really is an energy shortage that is not caused by the oil companies, or that the anti-inflation program will require austerity from all, if we are withholding essential information about the economy?

Surely the leaks must be stopped and I believe there are simple administrative procedures for doing so. At a minimum, the habit of distributing multiple copies of signed and addressed memos without any indication of their confidential nature should cease. But much more importantly, I suggest that we eliminate the need for excessive secrecy by adopting a policy of being forthright with the American public about the economic outlook and other matters in which national consensus is necessary.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.
20210

cc Ray
Arnold
J.C.

August 3, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: THE SECRETARY *Ray*

SUBJECT: Major Departmental Activities
July 30-August 3

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The consultation process is going well. The Vice President, William Miller, Stu Eizenstat, Landon Butler, Fred Kahn and I met yesterday with Lane Kirkland of the AFL-CIO. All participants in these talks believe progress is being made. A good climate has developed for discussions of difficult issues. The wage price guidelines will be the most difficult to reach agreement on, but if we can accommodate some of their other concerns, I am hopeful we will win their cooperation.

There have been some unfounded accusations that the economic forecast memo was leaked by someone in the Labor Department. I am as certain as anyone can be in these situations that the source of the news reports was not this Department. I sincerely hope that this unfortunate situation will not be used as an excuse to exclude the Labor Department from this type of critical forecasting data. While control of this data should be tightened, excluding the Department so deeply involved in the consultation process would be a mistake.

William P. Hobgood was sworn in as Assistant Secretary for Labor Management Relations.

Under Secretary Robert Brown was confirmed by the full Senate to the National Mediation Board. I am continuing to interview candidates for the Under Secretary's position.

I don't know who leaked the report. 25 people had it (or more) - excluding the principal officials who had not had a chance to consider it. Bill Miller will decide how to prevent a recurrence.

cc Miller

J

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9
1

RSC..

Mrs. Patton (principal at Amy's school) called to let you know they had gotten all the test scores and that Amy "did beautifully." Her math has improved greatly and Mrs. Patton said they were "thrilled" with Amy's overall scores.

She also has invited you and the President to a parents pot-luck supper in September and I've given this info to Jane.

CB

8/3

R

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AUG 3 1979

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

04 Aug 79

Hugh Carter

The attached was returned in
the President's outbox today
and is forwarded to you for
appropriate handling.

Rick Hutcheson

Hamilton Jordan

THE ORIGINAL ORDER HAS
BEEN GIVEN TO BOB
LINDER FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING.

3308

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BRZEZINSKI
MCINTYRE
SCHULTZE

ARAGON
BOURNE
BUTLER
H. CARTER
CLOUGH
COSTANZA
CRUIKSHANK
FALLOWS
FIRST LADY
GAMMILL
HARDEN
HUTCHESON
JAGODA
LINDER
MITCHELL
MOE
PETERSON
PETTIGREW
PRESS
RAFSHOON
SCHNEIDERS
VOORDE
WARREN
WISE

ADAMS
ANDRUS
BELL
BERGLAND
BLUMENTHAL
BROWN
CALIFANO
HARRIS
KREPS
MARSHALL
SCHLESINGER
STRAUSS
VANCE

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 3, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: HAMILTON JORDAN

FROM: HUGH CARTER 

SUBJECT: Salary Order for James M. Copeland, Jr.

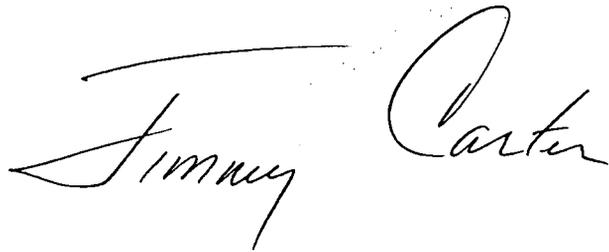
Attached for your signature is a salary order affixing Jim Copeland's salary at \$48,500 per annum effective July 23, 1979.

Frank Moore has promoted Jim into Les Francis's job, as Les will be moving onto Hamilton's rolls. Jim's previous salary was \$47,487.

O R D E R

- - - - -

I hereby fix the compensation
of James M. Copeland, Jr. at the rate
of \$48,500 per annum, effective
July 23, 1979.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jimmy Carter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the main text block.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

CHRISTOPHER LASCH
47 PARKER DRIVE
PITTSFORD, N. Y. 14534

①

18 July 1979

Dear Pat:

A number of reporters have asked me to comment on the President's speech, but I have turned down a request for an interview with CBS News and refrained from all but the most guarded comments elsewhere, fearing that any reservations I might express could all too easily be misinterpreted and misused. The tenor of the questions put to me suggests that, as usual, the media are less interested in a frank discussion of the issues raised by the speech than in the inside story of how it came to be written, in sampling "reactions" to the President's "performance," and in gearing up for the next presidential campaign. Under these circumstances I think they might for their own reasons welcome criticism of the President, or even anything that could be construed as criticism, from a left-wing author claiming that his ideas had been misused, bowdlerized, or put to purposes he had not intended and could not now countenance. Though it would be easy to indulge their insatiable ~~appetite~~ appetite for "critical commentary"--and in my own case to forestall charges from the Left that I've been seduced and coopted by too close proximity to power--it is increasingly clear that the real danger of cooptation, these days, comes from the media, which absorb and homogenize all points of

~~vi~~ view and turn them to the purpose of political entertainment. So I address these remarks to you instead of putting them out for general consumption--the word could not be more appropriate in this context.

The speech itself seemed to me courageous, powerful, and often moving--better in some ways than the policies it announced. It struck a note of moral earnestness that has made a strong impact on everyone I've talked to (barring reporters), even among people who haven't counted themselves among the President's supporters. It managed to speak realistically about the country's troubles without invoking a mood of panic or national emergency. Instead of pleading for broad executive power, it insisted on the limits of federal action--even while accepting responsibility for bold ~~and~~ and expensive measures. Best of all, it sought to connect moral and cultural issues on the one hand with economic issues on the other. Such is the stupidity that prevails among the political commentators and pundits, ^{that} what was clearly intended as an analysis of the link between the "crisis of confidence" and the energy crisis has been widely misunderstood--and in some quarters dismissed--as a "sermon." Perhaps it is only the sophisticated and overeducated (that is, ~~half~~ half-educated and semiliterate) members of society who confuse sermons with empty moralizing and platitudinous exhortation, and who don't see (having

lost touch with this country's Calvinist heritage) that a sermon can have great analytical depth and political force. It is only to the metropolitan mind--more provincial than the provincialisms it scorns--that a "sermon" presents itself as a term of dismissal and contempt.

That brings me to the main point of this letter: the need to confront more openly, though not in any spirit of demagoguery or anti-intellectualism, the social divisions in this country, and to address more directly the groups that have a real ~~stage~~ stake in change--poor people, working-class people, and any others whose minds have not been wholly paralyzed by the culture of "self-expression" and self-gratification. I don't think there is much to be gained from appeals for national unity. Nor do I see much point in denouncing the selfishness of special interests. It's true that Congress is too responsive to special interest groups, but the reasons for this have more to do with underlying changes in the political system than with the undeniable rapacity and greed of special interests. A more serious problem, it seems to me, is the ascendancy of corporate interests as a whole, and more broadly of the managerial and professional elite that gets most of the social and economic advantages from the existing distribution of power. What I have called the culture of narcissism is above all the culture of this class. These people have sold the rest of us on ~~tyo~~ their way of life, but it is

their way of life first and foremost, and it reflects their values, their rootless existence, their craving ~~for~~ for novelty and contempt for the past, their confusion of reality with electronically mediated images of reality, their essentially gossipy approach to politics, their "other-directed" round of life and the bureaucratic setting (corporate or governmental) in which it unfolds.

Appeals for hard work, discipline, and sacrifice are likely to fall on deaf ears when addressed, not to those who most need to hear them, but to people who already work hard and undergo sacrifices every day ~~there~~ through no choice of their own. Such appeals will only reinforce the prevailing cynicism unless ~~coupled~~ coupled with an attack--more than a rhetorical attack--on the power and privileges of elites. A few years ago, many Americans patriotically turned down their thermostats in the winter only to be socked with higher fuel prices, justified on the grounds that demand was off. This is not the kind of experience that restores people's faith in industry or government. I think it has to be made clear, in short, that sacrifices are going to be apportioned according to the capacity to bear them, in accordance with elementary principles of justice.

Beyond that, a serious discussion has to take place--has to begin--about the kind of energy policy, and the kind

of economic institutions--that would best serve the needs of rudimentary fairness. What kind of energy policies would be most likely to preserve the gross inequalities in the ~~the~~ present distribution of wealth and power? What kind of policies would contribute, on the other hand, to a more democratic distribution of wealth and power? I'm not advocating a centrally imposed ~~the~~ equality of condition, but its opposite: the kind of decentralization that would break up existing concentrations of power and approximate the general diffusion of property regarded by the Founding Fathers as the indispensable underpinning of republican institutions.

In his Sunday night speech, the President ~~rightly~~ rightly said that we stand at a turning point in our history. But I think the choices confronting us could be formulated more pointedly. ~~The choice is~~ He spoke of a choice between self-aggrandizement (a "mistaken idea of freedom") and the "restoration of American values." I would be more specific. The choice is between centralization and concentration of power on the one hand, localism and "participatory democracy" on the other--and participatory democracy remains a good idea, no matter how outrageously the New Left may have perverted it. I suspect that policies which don't demonstrably contribute to the second kind of solution will not arouse much enthusiasm over the long run--except among

groups that stand to gain from more centralization, more consumerism, more self-defeating technology.

I can't claim to speak with authority about the energy problem as such, but it doesn't take much wit to see that the only feasible policy in the long run is one based on renewable ~~resour~~ resources and minimal damage to the environment. This kind of policy commends itself for two reasons: because it best serves the interests of localism and democracy, and because it best serves the interests of future generations, who will have to live with the consequences of decisions made today even though they had no hand in making them. A centralized policy relying heavily on nuclear power and other ~~synthes~~ synthetic fuels is objectionable not only because it perpetuates the morally indefensible concentration of power and wealth (benefitting the very companies that have already brought us to the current critical pass) but because it mortgages the future to the immediate interests of the present generation.

This is the ultimate indictment of the "culture of narcissism"--not that it is self-indulgent and self-absorbed but because it is criminally indifferent to the welfare of the next generation and the generation after that. In my book, I tried to show that this irresponsibility turns up in many forms (especially among the professional and managerial elite): in the criminally negligent way we

educate our children, in the refusal of parents to discipline or make any moral demands on the young, in the way we exalt immediate sexual pleasure over reproduction, etc. But this disregard of the future also shows itself, most clearly of all, in the way we squander precious resources without any regard for those who will inherit our over-fond self-regard. ~~But this~~ Looked at from this point of view, the notion of "renewable resources"--whatever the merely faddish environmentalism with which it is sometimes associated--has a lot to tell us about the choice confronting us and the new direction our society ought to take.

Yours,



Christopher Lasch

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

04 Aug 79

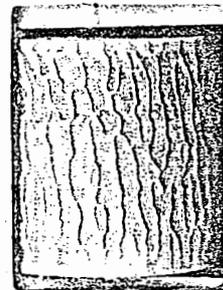
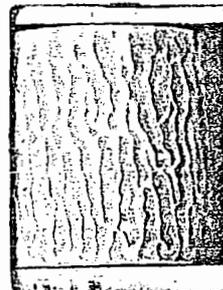
Jody Powell

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Rick Hutcheson

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	SCHULTZE

	ARAGON
	BOURNE
	BUTLER
	H. CARTER
	CLOUGH
	COSTANZA
	CRUIKSHANK
	FALLOWS
	FIRST LADY
	GAMMILL
	HARDEN
	HUTCHESON
	JAGODA
	LINDER
	MITCHELL
	MOE
	PETERSON
	PETTIGREW
	PRESS
	RAFSHOON
	SCHNEIDERS
	VOORDE
	WARREN
	WISE

	ADAMS
	ANDRUS
	BELL
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*Jody -
a good
thoughtful
letter - treat
Confidentially
J*

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OFFICE OF THE BUREAU CHIEF

August 2, 1979

Mrs. Rosalynn Carter
First Lady of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

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Dear Mrs. Carter:

I wanted to thank you for granting me the opportunity to interview you and chat with you in Tokyo during the week of your state visit to Japan and the Economic Summit meeting.

I also thought I would like to pass along to you--and, therefore, hopefully, to the President--some of my observations about the turbulent events of the past few weeks. In doing so, I should like to explain that I have been covering presidents off and on since the days of General Eisenhower, that as publisher and editor of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer in 1976 I decreed that our newspaper endorse Jimmy Carter for election to the presidency and that I abhor the growing rift between the White House and the Washington press corps because I think it detrimental to both institutions as well as to the nation as a whole.

My observations are offered in the spirit established by the President and the individuals with whom he met and conversed at Camp David.

While our press must be vigilant and exercise its constitutional right to express itself freely and even critically in dealing with the government, I agree with Vermont Royster's recent observation that there is an inherent danger to the country in the so-called adversary relationship that pits one institution against the other.

While I applaud the President's desire to move about the country talking with the people in town hall meetings and regional press conferences, I also believe--as an American and a journalist--that this is a time for the President to be strengthening rather than weakening his ties with Washington press corps.

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Boston Herald American
Los Angeles Herald-Examiner
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I am not alone in believing that much of the adverse public reaction to the recent Cabinet shake-up could have been avoided through more open and candid communication with the media and, therefore, with the people.

Much of the innuendo and rumor that spread through this city and then through the nation could have been avoided if at the proper moment--immediately following the Cabinet meeting of Tuesday, July 17--there had been from the White House a full explanation of the President's motives and desires. Timing was of the utmost importance.

The opportunity was there for the President to continue the momentum he had gained through his conferences at Camp David, his Sunday night Energy speech and his appearances in Kansas City and Detroit.

I do not hold the media blameless for its reporting during that period, but I do know that we were scrounging for information about a dramatic and somewhat traumatic episode in our nation's history with very little help from the White House.

I hope you will understand that I am expressing these views in a positive rather than a negative manner because I believe all of us--the public, the White House and the news media--would be better served by improved communications.

Although I have made several requests over the past year to meet the president or interview him or to be included in small background sessions with, him, I have never been granted that opportunity. Yet from our Bureau we write daily stories and columns that are printed in our newspapers in Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Antonio, Baltimore, Seattle and Albany, New York.

Every major newspaper in the nation is represented by at least one correspondent in this city. We come from diverse philosophical, educational and geographic backgrounds--and we are not monolithic. We seek to serve as a conduit of communication between the people and the personalities and events that shape their destiny. That is our job and our trust.

There never has--and never will--be a President who does not feel that he has been treated irresponsibly or unfairly by the press. By the same token, there never will be a time when we in the news media agree on the performance of a President.

Yet, there is much to be said for a stronger bond of communication between the President and the press--and not simply through the televised news conference which has more to do with theatre than with the dissemination of information.

In his speech, Mr. Royster, referring to the televised news conference, said: "One consequence of this, it seems to me, is that Presidents today try to say no more at a press conference

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than what might be put as well in a carefully drafted statement. The loss here is both to the President and to the Press.

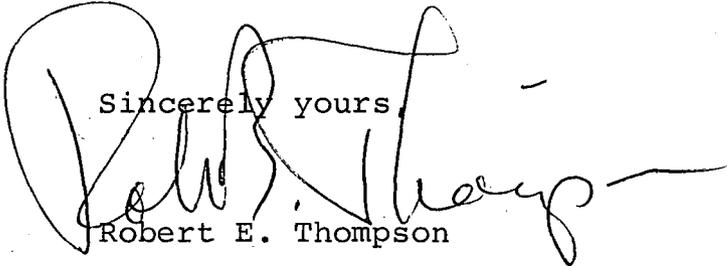
"The President has lost an opportunity to be frank and open. The press has lost an opportunity to share his thought processes which, without being the stuff of tomorrow's headlines, nonetheless could help reporters on their own to do a better job of informing their readers and listeners."

I concur. At his July 25 news conference President Carter said that the appointment of Hamilton Jordan has been "one of the most grossly distorted of my career in politics." That may be true. But the gross distortion was due in large part to gross mishandling of the announcement by the White House.

I hope you--and the President--will accept these observations in the spirit in which they are tendered--which is to be helpful and positive at a time when our nation needs greater unity rather than greater divisiveness.

With best regards.

Sincerely yours,



Robert E. Thompson

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OUT HERE

For release Sunday, July 29,
or thereafter

THE PRESIDENT GETS AN ENCOURAGING WORD

By Brandt Ayers

ANNISTON, Ala.--Political junkies got a high last week during the cabinet shakeup--some even hallucinated in print and on television--while, out here in the country, the permanent pulse of life went on in its slow, eternal rhythm from baptisms to weddings to funerals.

Doomsday headlines of The Washington Post trumpeted alarm, "A Political Skylab Hits the Capital." At home, no one took to the streets shouting, "Brock Adams Is Falling! Brock Adams Is Falling!"

By next weekend when the crowd swells to nearly 100,000 out at the Speedway for the annual Talladega 500, there may be 100 stock-car fans who can answer the question, "Is Brock Adams a rookie driver or a former secretary of transportation?"

George Gallup could have been eavesdropping on the conversations at Jim Turner's Courthouse Barber Shop when he reported that 78 per cent of the American people felt the cabinet changes made little difference or would help the country.

Something quite different is on the minds of people in the barber shop and corner restaurant coffee-clatches of America, unless my hometown is utterly atypical.

(more)

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Public opinion is turning in a direction that should give President Carter encouragement but should also challenge the president to fine-tune his message so that the full gravity of it comes across with unmistakable clarity.

Jim Turner, whose barber-shop barometer is yet to be proven wrong, is more confident this week than he was immediately after President Carter's Sunday and Monday addresses.

He reports that the average working people are saying, "We've got to get behind the president. He's done his part; now it's up to us to do ours." A regular customer in Jim's chair asked rhetorically, "What else can we do?"

People are beginning to enlist in the president's cause. They are signing up but they are still a little vague about the essential meaning of the mission.

When I did Rex Gardner's call-in show on WHMA for two hours last Friday, there was only one passing reference to the cabinet changes but there was a long dialogue about the price of oil--indicating that some people haven't yet gotten the message that the issue is security and not price.

One caller rightly nailed the president for a sleight-of-tongue trick. The president said the oil companies would pay the excess profits tax, but God and everybody with walking-around sense knows that we consumers will pay it. Knock that off, please, Mr. President.

Out here it is clear that, in future communications with the country, President Carter needs to make clear, calmly but surely, that the purpose of his energy policies is our own national security and America's leadership of the industrialized world.

(more)

There are things he told us in the final group at Camp David which he asked us never to report. If he had been less careful and more of a demagogue, he could have sent a surge of terrifying, ice-cold adrenalin through the bodies of his Sunday-night audience.

It is to his credit that he chose to lead rather than panic the country into awareness that its independence and security are at stake. But carefully, over the next few weeks and months, he needs to spread the understanding that we cannot lead as long as we are dependent on others for half our life-giving oil and we must lead because nations like Japan, France and Italy are almost 100 per cent dependent on others to lubricate their industrial societies.

A tentative, national consensus is beginning to form around the president's policies. It can be secured if he stays in touch with the country and does not listen to the political gossips in Washington.

In the small towns and urban, working-class neighborhoods, he will hear a more authentic voice of America saying that there are some things more important than the price of oil. One is independence and another is national self-respect.

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THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE

Sunday - August 5, 1979

9:50 Depart South Grounds via Motorcade
en route the First Baptist Church.

10:00 Sunday School.

11:00 Morning Worship Service.