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Memo	<p>Landon Butler to Pres. Carter, 2 pp., re: Postal Negotiations</p> <p>opened per RAC NLC-126-14-10-1-4, 6/12/73</p>	8/24/78	A

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OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

August 24, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD MOE *RM*

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON DOD AUTHORIZATION VETO

As the Vice President told you Thursday, we are increasingly confident that the House will sustain your veto September 7. We are saying publicly that it promises to be a difficult fight and a close vote, but that we are confident you will prevail.

We are contacting every member of the House except a few of the carrier's most enthusiastic supporters. On the basis of these calls, the Vice President, Harold and Zbig are making "persuasion" calls to a targeted group of about 45. As a result of these efforts, we today have 165 firm commitments to sustain, with 30 more leaning that way and 34 undecided (144 are needed).

Anne Wexler yesterday produced an excellent White House briefing for business, community and ethnic leaders in which the Vice President, Harold and Zbig participated. Jerry has put together and implemented an effective media strategy. All of the other efforts previously outlined to you are underway.

While we are hoping to get a record vote on the 7th in order to demonstrate a clear-cut presidential victory, we think it probable that the opposition will determine our strength and simply move to refer the bill back to committee without a vote. If that happens, we will have a press strategy to make sure it is widely known that your victory was decisive.

Our most serious concern is what the Congress in its anger might do to try to embarrass the Administration when the veto is sustained. We think the most likely possibility is that they will report the bill back with a conventional carrier in it. We're doing everything short of threatening another veto

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

August 24, 1978

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to discourage such a development, because we believe that to accept a conventional carrier would seriously dilute the significance as well as the size of your victory. DOD, NSC and OMB all agree with this strategy and they have further agreed to develop by early next week a specific list of those items we want restored to the bill so that we can begin serious negotiations on the Hill. Harold will take the lead in this effort, and we are obviously hopeful that it can be done in an amicable and effective manner (we are disinclined to force a record vote on the 7th if the opposition doesn't want one because it would appear to be rubbing their faces in it and inevitably make successful negotiations more difficult).

The opposition has not yet mounted a major drive, but there are signs they plan to do so. We have a great head start on them, but we're determined not to take our lead for granted. We're planning to continue building momentum, and in that regard it would be most helpful if you could make several calls next week. If you agree, we will send a list of names.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: LONDON BUTLER *LB*

DATE: AUGUST 24, 1978

SUBJECT: POSTAL NEGOTIATIONS

The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), representing about 225,000 carriers, has voted down the contract with the US Postal Service by a margin of approximately 4-3. The ballot count was completed yesterday.

NALC has a constitutional provision that requires the union President, Joseph Vacca, to call a nation-wide strike in the event that USPS refuses to reopen negotiations within five days. Further, the NALC constitution requires that Vacca call a nation-wide strike if agreement is not reached within 15 days after negotiations are reopened. This constitutional provision is clearly illegal. The Postal Reorganization Act does not permit a strike in the postal service: the act substitutes a factfinding and arbitration procedure if the parties cannot reach agreement or if the union does not ratify the agreement.

The vote on the contract with the American Postal Workers Union (APWU), also representing about 225,000 members, will probably be completed by early tomorrow morning; we will have some idea of the trend by late tonight.

APWU also has a constitutional mandate to call a nation-wide strike in the event that the Postal Service refuses to reopen negotiations within five days. The APWU constitution hedges somewhat on the requirement for a strike if there is no agreement after 15 days of negotiations, but the possibility of an illegal strike will be essentially the same with both unions.

Wayne Horvitz has called a meeting of both the unions and management for 2:00pm tomorrow in his office. Both sides will avoid taking public positions until that time; Wayne's meeting should keep the situation stable through the weekend.

Ray Marshall held a meeting of the informal wage negotiations committee yesterday, and it was agreed that the Administration should continue its policy of refusing to comment on developments in the postal negotiations. Wayne Horvitz and his staff are in hourly contact with the parties.

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Per: Rac Project

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BY: KS NARA DATE 6/11/13

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If APWU ratifies the contract tomorrow, then it is my guess that the Postal Service will refuse to reopen negotiations, and offer to enter immediately into compulsory arbitration. In that event, the Letter Carriers would find themselves in the awkward position of calling for an illegal strike against a contract which APWU has ratified.

If, on the other hand, APWU votes down the contract tomorrow, then the Postal Service will be under pressure to reopen negotiations. The likely outcome would be a small increase in the first year wage package plus removing the cap from the cost-of-living adjustment.

In any event, it is likely that we can anticipate job actions next week similar to those which occurred earlier during the negotiations, and the Postal Service will again be forced to take action against employees who are clearly breaking the law.

We will keep you posted as further developments occur.

cc: Ray Marshall
Charlie Schultze
Wayne Horvitz
Hamilton Jordan

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 24, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRANK MOORE *F.M./or*
TIM KRAFT *TK*

SUBJECT: 1978 ELECTIONS

This will summarize our activity since our last report. We have met with each of the Cabinet schedulers and outlined political guidelines. Additionally, we have met with, and continue to work closely with, the First Lady's staff on her political schedule. Attached is a listing, by state, where each of the Administration principals has committed to campaign as of this report.

We will have to coordinate this effort continuously. All of the White House principal schedulers will meet periodically to ensure open lines of communication. We will be placing the travel plans of each Administration official on large charts to be maintained in a boiler room in EOB.

I feel that we have been successful in targeting our resources to those races where they are most needed. Each of the candidates on our marginal lists will receive some aid from the Administration. Our major drawback has been simply a shortage of staff to carry on the effort on the scale needed. The DNC field operations will be in place by mid-September. This should aid us greatly in terms of information gathering and candidate contacts.

The political situation is very fluid at this juncture. We have a good number of primaries left. Most campaigns are still in the process of raising money and organizing for their major post-Labor Day efforts. We will be providing you with an update on the key Senate and gubernatorial races shortly using the most recent poll data available.

The Vice President will be campaigning four days per week beginning October 4. At this point, the Vice President has committed to going to Illinois, Vermont, California, North Carolina, West Virginia and Texas.

The First Lady, as of this week, has three political trips planned with two to three more blocs of time for trips later in October. The trips planned currently will take her to North Carolina, Florida, Iowa, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas. We will be working with the First Lady's staff to develop the remainder of her schedule.

Chip Carter will be traveling extensively as he aids with the implementation of the DNC Field Program. He has met with White House staff in an effort to establish the priority areas to which he should travel. Chip has committed the month of October totally to campaigning. As of this moment, Chip is scheduled to travel to Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Miss Lillian will be traveling three days per week starting September 12. She has already made campaign appearances in South Carolina and Illinois. She is scheduled to appear in Arkansas, Illinois again, Iowa, South Dakota, New Jersey and New York.

Mrs. Mondale will be campaigning in Colorado, Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota and New Jersey.

Bob Strauss has committed to appear in the following states: Texas, Colorado, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, New York and Ohio. He will be doing in-town money raisers for Maurice Dantin, the Senate candidate from Mississippi, Fred Richmond, John Jenrette and Tom Foley.

Secretary Califano has committed to go to Michigan, California, Texas, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Florida.

Secretary Kreps has committed to go to North Carolina, South Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and

Colorado. We are asking the Secretary to additionally go to Texas and Ohio.

Secretary Andrus will visit Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Texas, California and West Virginia.

Secretary Adams will visit Colorado, California, Washington, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Kansas, West Virginia, Connecticut, Maine and Ohio.

Secretary Marshall has submitted an excellent political schedule. He will campaign in Texas, California, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Wisconsin.

Secretary Schlesinger will do Texas, California and Western Pennsylvania.

Secretary Blumenthal has committed to visit Texas, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Colorado, Michigan and Florida.

Secretary Bergland will visit Oregon, New York, Ohio, Illinois, California, Maine, Minnesota, Arkansas, West Virginia and Kansas.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DATE: 24 AUG 78

FOR ACTION:

INFO ONLY: VICE PRESIDENT

HAMILTON JORDAN

~~FIRST LADY (MACBEAN)~~

RICHARD HARDEN

PHIL WISE

FRAN VOORDE

SUBJECT: MOORE AND KRAFT MEMO RE: 1978 ELECTIONS

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+ RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052) +

+ BY: +

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ACTION REQUESTED:

STAFF RESPONSE: () I CONCUR. () NO COMMENT. () HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW: