

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

S

FOIA Number:

S

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential
Library Staff.**

Record Group/Collection: Donated Historical Materials
Collection/Office of Origin: Bush, George H.W., Collection
Series: Personal Papers
Subseries: Congressional File, General

OA/ID Number: 25856
Folder ID Number: 25856-023

Folder Title:
Vice Presidential Files 1968

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	5	1	4	4

Los Angeles Times

LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE WEST, \$4,124 DAILY, 1,216 PM SUNDAY

VOL. LXXXVIII SEVEN PARTS—PART ONE CC THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 8, 1968 128 PAGES 25 AIR MAIL DAILY 10c

Either Hatfield or Baker Viewed as No. 2 Choice

Bush Seen as Longshot Among Those Acceptable to GOP in All Regions

BY JOHN H. AVERILL
Times Staff Writer

MIAMI BEACH—By restricting his options to placate restive Southerners, Richard M. Nixon was viewed Wednesday night to have limited his running-mate possibilities largely to Sens. Howard H. Baker Jr. of Tennessee and Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon.

A third, but longshot, prospect was said to be Rep. George Bush of Texas.

Some Republican veterans see these as the men Nixon most likely would tap for the GOP vice presidential nomination if he observes the formula he told the Southerners he would apply in picking a running mate.

The principal ingredient of that formula was a pledge that whomever he picked would be "acceptable to all" regions of the nation.

Would Rule Out Rockefeller

Shortly before the presidential balloting Wednesday night, Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) said Nixon had indicated to the Southerners that he "will not take anyone who is objectionable to us."

As interpreted by most Southern Republicans, that would rule out New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller and New York Mayor John V. Lindsay and perhaps even Sen. Charles H. Percy of Illinois.

By the same token, some East Coast and Midwest Republican liberals said from their standpoint the "acceptability" factor also would rule out California Gov. Reagan and Sen. John G. Tower of Texas.

Whether any of these men actually are to be ruled out depends, of course, on whether Nixon means what the Southerners and others are thinking he meant.

Some Republicans who have had long associations with Nixon were skeptical Wednesday that the former Vice President would have given anyone a section of the country a veto over the choice of his running mate.

For this reason, it was suggested that neither Lindsay nor Reagan should be ruled out. Should Nixon, as he has said he would not, decide to write off the South to George C. Wallace and compete with the Democrats for the big-city and Northern industrial state vote, Lindsay is viewed as a man who could help him immensely.

But if Nixon is intent on contesting Wallace not only in the South

Please Turn to Page 15, Col. 1

Part I—Thurs., Aug. 8, 1968 Los Angeles Times *

VICE PRESIDENT

Continued from First Page

but in all areas where racial turmoil has produced Wallace converts, then Reagan is described as the strongest possible addition to his ticket.

Yet to tap either Lindsay or Reagan would create possibly dangerous divisions within GOP ranks—a prospect Nixon seems to abhor.

With Nixon intent on maintaining party harmony, there was growing speculation that his best hope of doing so rested on picking Baker or Hatfield, or possibly Bush, as his running mate.

Of the three, Hatfield is the best known because of his eight years as governor of Oregon before being elected to the Senate in 1968. A political moderate, the 46-year-old Oregonian has been viewed with suspicion by many conser-

vatives because of his outspoken criticism of the Vietnam war. But he has sensed that suspicion by endorsing Nixon well in advance of the convention and by strongly opposing gun control legislation.

While lesser known, Baker is a man who could campaign effectively in all parts of the country. Despite his Southern accent, Baker, as a political moderate, has been highly effective before youthful audiences in the North.

The 43-year-old Tennesseean, whose father and mother both served in Congress, is regarded as one of the most promising of the new crop of senators of both parties.

Baker also has another asset. He is the son-in-law of Senate Minority Leader Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois.

Despite their relation-

ship, Baker demonstrated a streak of independence last year that proved embarrassing to Dirksen. Teaming up with Sen. Edward M. (Ted) Kennedy (D-Mass.), Baker persuaded the Senate to reject a compromise congressional redistricting bill that had been sponsored by Dirksen and some other Senate senators.

That victory gave Baker the respect of congressional liberals that could be helpful to the Nixon ticket even in the North.

Photocopy-Preservation

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.P.

Bismarck, North Dakota
September 3, 1968

PERSONAL

The Honorable George Bush
Member of Congress
Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear George:

I would have given anything to have been with you in Miami because I can't help but feel the little extra push and shove that I might have been able to give could have made at least a mite of difference.

From what I can tell, I have nothing whatsoever against Agnew, but it makes some difference that I don't know him at all. I do know that Nixon-Bush still sounds better to me and would have been nothing short of tremendous excitement. The most fun I have had talking to my friends and people back here in North Dakota about George Bush is the realization that you are a great guy and that isn't all -- this comes from a non-college graduate and a non-Yale student and a non-Phi Beta Kappa (whatever that is). If you haven't seen the clipping that appeared in our paper regarding "my kingmaker role," I think you will get a kick out of it.

Many of our family plans have been changed considerably since I last saw you because of Glen's accident, but she seems to be on the mend even though it is going to be long and slow. I will be commuting between Washington and Bismarck since all other members of the family except Janis will be staying here.

In relatively a few hours I will know if I won the Primary or not. Everything looks encouraging, not only for the Primary but also for the fall. It is a little difficult to analyze with a certain Russell Kleppe in the race.

I was particularly pleased to note that you are moving closer to the front row of seats. I intend to have a visit with Nixon and his leadership to put in a good word for you because then maybe

The Honorable George Bush
September 3, 1968
Page 2

you will help me stay up there in the front row with you.

I hear by the news that Texas has another Republican Congressman. I always knew that Bush was good and would bring some of this about. After the Democratic Convention debacle in Chicago, it is quite likely there will be more Republicans from Texas henceforth.

Tell your family hello for us until we get to see them again.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



TOM KLEPPE
Member of Congress

TK/lc

*Hooray for Jimmy Collins.
My golf is lousy, but putting is great*

E METROPOLITAN

36.4-Cent Hike in L.A. Property Tax Possible

Los Angeles taxpayers face a possible 36.4-cent increase in the municipal property tax rate recommended by a special City Council committee to end the city's gravest

THOMAS E. DEWEY

RECEIVED

September 6, 1968

SEP 11 1968

Dear George:

I have your good note about the considerations about the vice-presidency and want you to know that it was a labor of love, as I am sure it was for George Champion.

All in all, it certainly did no harm and I am sure you have a wonderful future ahead of you. I hope I will see you soon.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,



The Honorable George Bush
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

GEORGE L. COLEMAN
1029 North Ocean Blvd.
PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33480

DD
no card

PERSONAL

RUCKELSHAUS FOR U.S. SENATOR

111 NORTH CAPITOL AVENUE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
635-7561

RECEIVED

SEP 16 1968

September 9, 1968

Mr. George L. Coleman
1029 North Ocean Boulevard
Palm Beach, Florida 33480

Dear George:

Many thanks for your kind contribution to my campaign. I am sorry that we were not able to do more for George Bush and his vice presidential effort but he was much closer to being successful than even I imagined.

I think we have a wonderful chance of winning this year and I certainly appreciate all your efforts on my behalf.

Again, my thanks for your continued support.

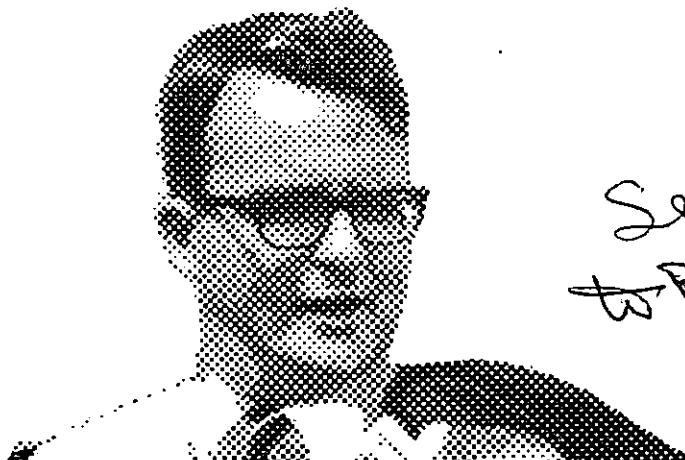
Sincerely,

Bill

WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS

WDR:r

*Send to
George Bush
Cong.
Regards
George*



*Send copy
to Bill Lister*

GB---

Attached you will find a sketchy outline of the press mentions you received in relation to the vice presidency. Though the pattern is not very definite, I thought you might like to see what they were saying about you. Seems pretty good.

Please return these to me for files.

ann

Good
on
U rep

JUNE

15 MENTIONS

VP BOOM NOTES

EVANS NOVAK COLUMN--first appearing 6/5/58

Washington Post--Young Texas Congressman gets look as Nixon Running Mate.
Louisville Times--Novice in Congress May Be Nixon Running Mate
New York Post---The Bush Groundswell
Abilene Reporter News--Bush For Veep?
Houston Post--Bush Urged As Nixon Running Mate
San Angelo Standard Times--Rep Bush's Name Offered to Nixon As Possible Running Mate
Atlanta Journal--Rep. Thompson Wants Bush
Odessa---Rep. Bush's Name Offered to Nixon As Possible Veep
Chicago Sun Times--Nixon Is Eyeing Bush of Texas
Clarion Ledger

Other Mentions:

Houston Post--Strong move underway among young Republicans in House...attention called to low key campaign by Evans Novak...GB anxious to avoid friction with Tower...could draw Northern and Southern voters..Gb says he is totally unknown and not running but flattered...colleagues think highly of him...tremendous asset because of role of electronic media plays.. reliable Rep. source discounted possibility Bush would get it over Tower.
Houston Post--Billy Graham denies boosting Bush..never made such a statement and, as far as he knows, has never met GB...no idea where they got idea
Public Affairs Review --Among prominent Republican possibilities include GB of Tex.
Houston Tribune--Graham denies recommending Bush--statement probably a result of gold game with Sen. Bush where BG told him his son had a star quality on TV and he admired him
New York Times--Nixon has also mentioned, somewhat less frequently, Rep. GB of Tex, etc/

EVANS NOVAK--" neither national reputation or block of delegates...quiet Bush for VP campaign has developed in Congressional and business circles...Nixon interested... appeal to under 35, youthful, handsome, articulate..mugwump appeal of McCarthy to middle class independent voter...TV style among the best of politicians...spontaneous comments to Nixon from newsmen that Bush was sole redeeming factor in Republican rebuttal.. Texas establishment beating drums...Fletcher Thompson has informed Nixon of interest in GB. appeal to many sections--valid credentials in Eastern Establishment...Nixon's reservations --Gb lack of experience and possibility of offending Tower and Bush's conservative voting (does not reflect Bush's left of center image in Houston)..Bush's name makes sense in Nixon's widening lead --will not have to barter..would reinforce Nixon weak spots--minority, young, NE//

JULY

17 MENTIONS

VP Boom--NOTES

Texas Observer--GB--"a little truth"--Graham never met him--BG also predicting end of world
Houston Chronicle--GB being ballyhoed in some circles along with C. Percy. It is

understood however that Nixon is giving neither serious consideration.
National Observer--"tall, dashing and handsome at 44, moderate & impressive in his
freshman term"

Roll Call---GB frequently mentioned

Wall Street Journal--"handsome George Bush whom some politicians are beginning to
talk of as a possible presidential nominee for 1972."

Houston Post--"leaders of Spanish American land grant movement in NM urge consideration
of GB--"excellent record for taking positions favoring minorities--
spokesman of the moderate conservative thinking in Texas."

Newsday reprint--"Long shots include GB, son of former Conn. Sen PB and old friend of
NY mayor Lindsay"

AUGUST

VP BOOM---NOTES

13 MENTIONS

PRE ANNOUNCEMENT OF VP SELECTION

TIME--One of House Republicans bearing new breed label

Dallas Morning News--Southerners feel GB, etc. would help overcome Wallace threat..

Bush after Reagan and Tower..meets qualifications set forth by

Nixon..UPI does not include GB's name in list of possibilities.

Dallas Times Herald--GB getting good natured razzing over Evans Novak story..mentioned spasmodically for bigger things in politics..ref to bathroom pics..

Bush's name listed from time to time as possibility for VP..important backers not discouraged by Nixon..GB hardly a twinkle on national scene---impetus and enthusiasm comes from newly elected Rep. House member Youth, big asset.

Houston Post--Tower and Bush getting equal billing..signs in Barcelona, Middendorf, endorses Bush...Jack Steel to urge support of GB..John Mitchell says GB and Tower under consideration...GB says he would have to resign House to run

Houston Chronicle--Middendorf booming Bush--"excellent campaigner, attractive and an altogether refreshing face in Republican politics..compiled a good record as member of W&M and the fact that he is unopposed is impressive...many letters have come to Nixon endorsing Bush (NY, Ark, Ky, Wis, Idaho, Ga & ND) GB flattered---does not want to jeopardize Tower's chances...GB-"I'd like to be VP but I don't think it's going to happen"...Tower aides miffed.

Houston Post--Middendorf says GB "terribly attractive"..Bush says he is not running.. Chairman of delegations of above mentioned states expressed support... Only drawback--"suffers from lack of national recognition, a factor M said would not hurt Bush. Consensus that GB would bring no baggage with him...help offset Wallace inroads

Wall Street Journal--"GB--trim, handsome, first-termer, youth, Southern-urban orientation

Washington Post -- Southern delegations favor GB, etc.

Houston Chronicle--Bush signs in hotel lobby

Houston Chronicle--More unexpected than Tower's prominence is the support for GB..Bush made a splendid impression in Congress during his first term.. articulate, handsome and good on TV..fresh face needed to match Nixon's experience...support from Texas and NE..dynamic and effective..honorable

Midland Reporter Telegram--GB has received strong backing..nomination would strengthen the ticket..support voiced by various parts of nation..GB says "no base of national strength"...developing widespread recognition and base of strength..undoubtedly be a power in future GOP conventions..a gentleman, a scholar and a comer on national political scene..give GB exposure for Senate race.

Dallas Morning News--Bitterness has developed between Tower and Bush over the VP possibility: GB suggested Reagan, Rockefeller, Lindsay, Hatfield "not mentioning Tower" Tower supporters unhappy that GB allowed speculation about his own prospects..Texas delegation split between two men

Shreveport Times--UPI--drive developing in Texas delegation to get VP nomination for Bush or Tower..Steel pushing..Mitchell said both are under consideration

AUGUST

10 MENTIONS

POST VP BOOM

- Washington Post--Some Texans believed JT of GB would be VP nominee this year...does not appear to be a year for Texas on national ticket.
- Washington Evening Star--Callaway offered name of GB...Each of the South's four preferred men were ruled out for different reasons (Griffen, Baker, Reagan, GB) Bush was ruled out as too conservative
- Houston Post--Nixon said he personally ruled out GB and others.."new men on first terms of office"..Bush reported to be one of top three contenders..Tower said to be strong backer of Bush for #2 spot
- Houston Post--O'Donnell'Admitted he suggested GB as VP material but declined to say what reception was
- Houston Chronicle --Field of candidates included Tower and Bush
- Houston Chronicle --List included at one time or another--GB, etc
- Houston Chronicle -- Name of Rep. GB was one of the last eliminated during Nixon's search for running mate..Morton said Bush under consideration for nomination up until the last minute...had not been considered a serious contender (as Agnew had not been)...Bush lost out because leaders from North and East believed his Southern constituency and his conservative voting record would hurt the ticket in their areas. .7.Bush being considered because he would add charm to the GOP ticket and represented a marriage of the East and the South.
- Dallas Mornign News--Tower felt he might have been VP nominee if not for Cox's endorsement of Reagan, and O'Donnells endorsing Rep. GB as well as Tower for Vp. This giving of equal billing to a freshman Congressman and a nationally known Senator led many to believe delegation was split in alliance to two men
- Congressional Quarterly -- UPI story quited a highly reliable source as saying Rep. GB (plus Volpe and Baker were under consideration until 30 minutes before Nixon announced selection of Agnew....Nixon reportedly insited on a governor
- National Observer--When Nixon met with top personal aids--choice narrowed to Bush, Volpe and Agnew
- Richmond News Leader--Murfin said only men acceptable to all were Volpe, Agnew and Bush
- Boston Globe --Klein, press sec, listed those in final consideration as Bush,"son of former Senator Prescott Bush of Conn." and 12 others
- New York Times--Murfin suggested Rep. George Bush of Texas
- Times Herald--"GB was given high consideration for the Vice Presidency...still in contention when field narrowed to less than a handful...Republican source said Bush was "tempting, very tempting" but it was finally decided he had not sufficient experience under gunfire...final contention included Bush, Volpe, Baker, and Agnew."
- Houston Chronicle--Some Texans were so blind as to believe that Tower or Bush would be the Rep. VP nominee..."now those who consider Conally for Dems are equally unrealistic
- Time--about a dozen names on table including two late bloomers, GB and Sen. Griffen. Nixon listened patiently, commenting on only one man. Bush wouldn't do he said because he has only had a year and a half in Congress.
- Dallas Mornign News--GB passed over in selection---now advising
- Shreveport Times--UPI---highest consideration---"tempting, very tempting"
- St. Petersburg Times--Nixon did not pick Murfin's second choice Bush (1st Reagan)
- Clearwater Sun--Murfin--only apparently acceptable to all participants--Bush, Volpe, Agnew

WIRE, 10:05 AM, 7-28-68

Bush Pushed For VP Spot

ALBUQUERQUE, NM —(UPI)— Two leaders of the Spanish-American land grants movement in New Mexico Saturday urged Republican presidential contenders to consider Texas Congressman George Bush as their vice presidential running mate.

"Bush has an excellent record in Texas for taking positions favoring our minority," said Cristobal Tijerina and Felix Martinez in a telegram to Richard Nixon and New York Gov Nelson Rockefeller.

Tijerina, brother of militant spokesman Reies Tijerina who just announced for governor of New Mexico on a minority ticket, and Martinez are both members of the Federal Alliance of Free City States, a Spanish-American group which claims title to millions of acres under ancient Spanish land grants.

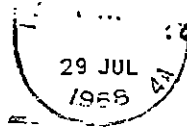
Bush, a Houston businessman, was first elected to Congress as a spokesman of the "moderate and conservative" thinking in Texas.

Reies Tijerina declined to comment on his brother's stand, saying he was too preoccupied with his own campaign. He said Cris Tijerina had met with Bush, however, in San Antonio recently to discuss Mexican-American problems in Texas.

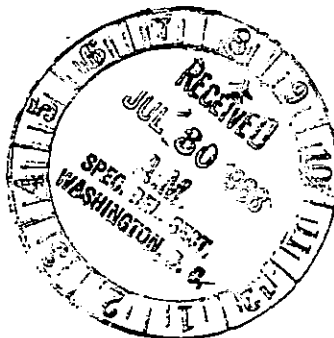
7-28-68
Hou Post

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

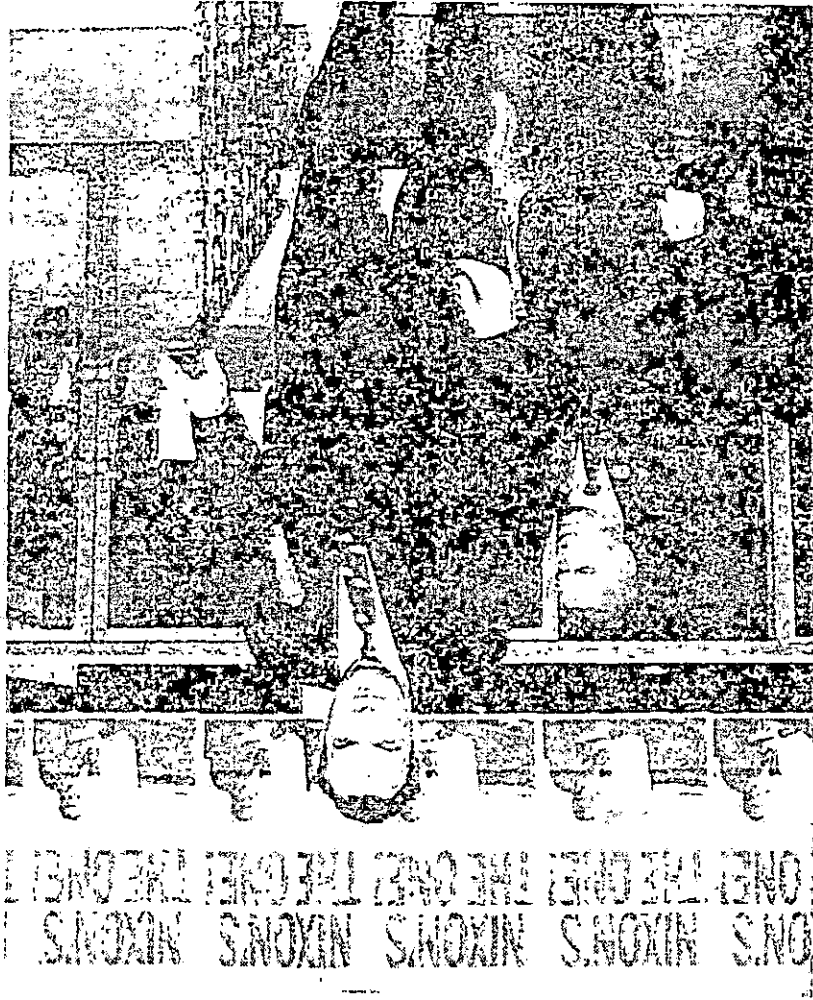


Mrs. Aileen Smith
Office of Congressman George Bush
1608 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

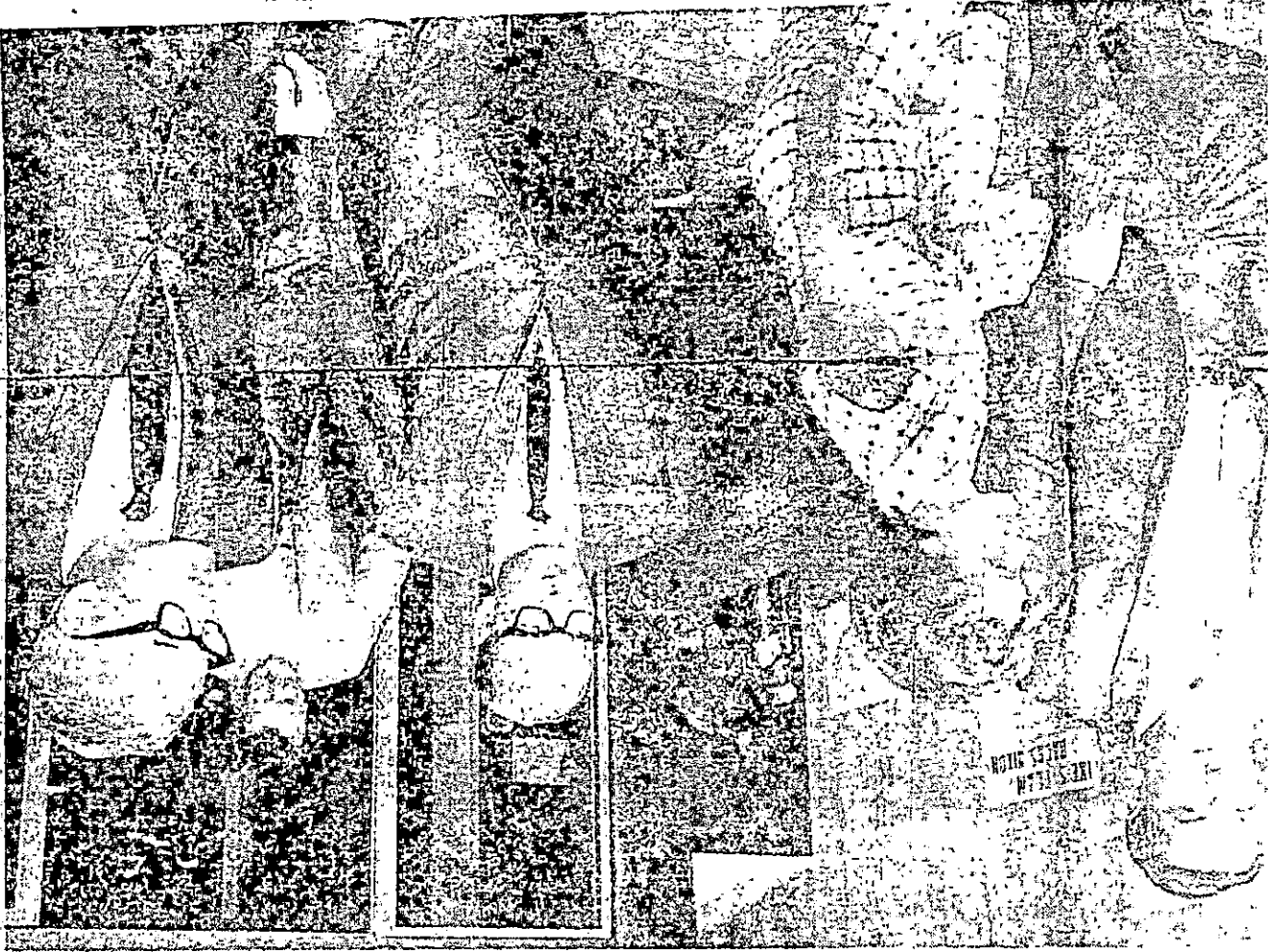


Traffic to Nixon's Suite Heavy at 4 a.m.

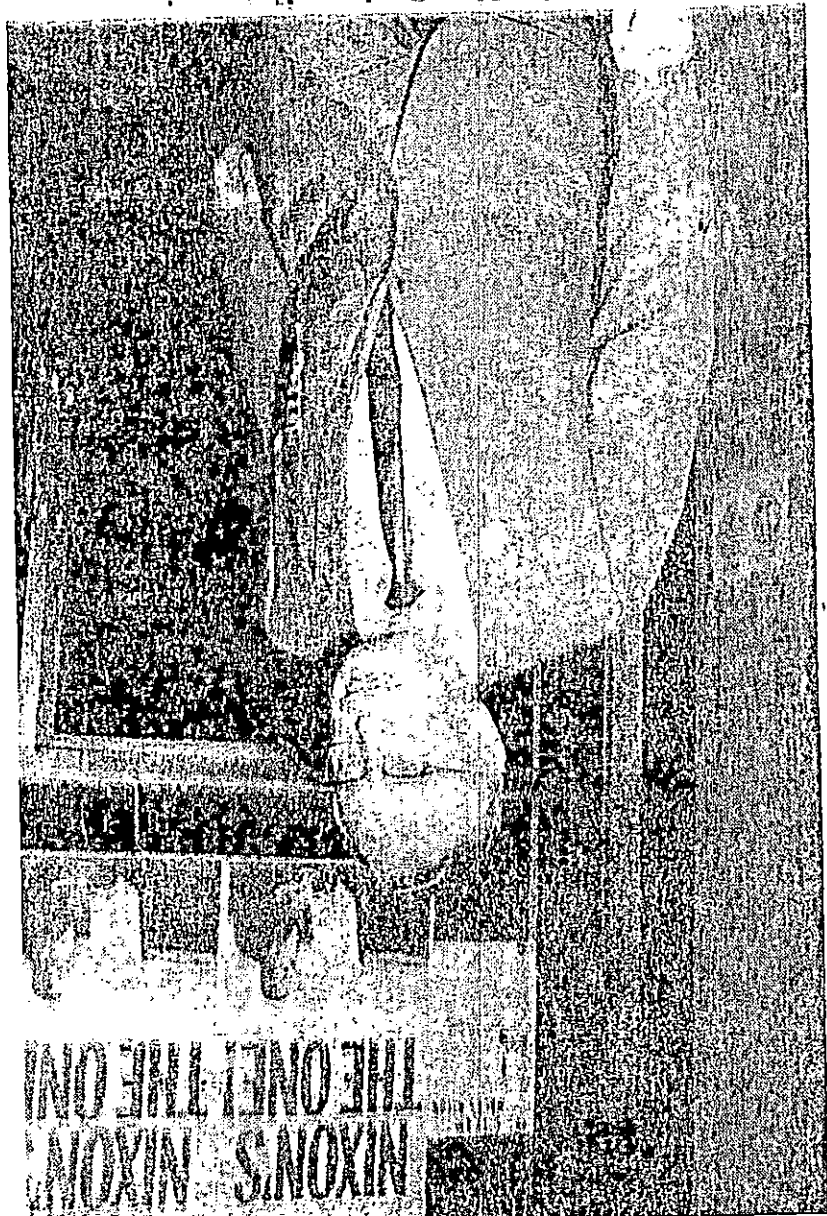
Gov. Louie Nunn Precedes Rep. John Rhodes



Goldwater Entourage Joins Morning Crush of Well Wishers



After the Arguments Were Presented, Nominee Selected His Running Mate



Sen. Muska Has Serious Expression



Tall With Chamberlain Strides In

By CLARENCE JONES
Herald Staff Writer

Richard Nixon came into the War Room at 2:45 a.m. Thursday his face flushed, the eyes flashing, the waltz almost a bounding dance, leashed by his press secretary and six Secret Service agents.

The 23 staff members in the converted men's sauna suit up the Hilton Plaza kept to their feet, applauding, reaching for his hand as he walked through the room, then up behind the long row of tables that stood in front of a wall-wide delegate chart.

Nixon couldn't stop talking. "Wisconsin did it," he exclaimed. "I'm glad it was a primary state. Knowles did it. (Robert) Knowles is Wisconsin state senator who also handled GOP Convention arrangements). Rockefeller just called me. Reagan, too. This is a great night."

A few minutes before, he, his wife and daughters had appeared briefly before a small group of newsmen and a single, pool television camera.

Staff Photos
By Jeff Koff

era in a living room of their 15-floor suite.

As Nixon told them good night and headed for the War Room, hundreds of supporters were converging on the hotel downstairs.

With Nixon on the 15th floor were men like John Mitchell, his Wall Street partner and campaign man; Dick Richardson, the man who had been coordinating delegates for months; Joe Stalderman, a West Coast advertising agency manager who serves as chief of staff; Bob Ellsworth, 41, a former Kansas congressman, now a Nixon strategist; Len Garment, a college jazz clarinetist who serves as chief of staff; and a college jazz clarinetist scout for the campaign.

It was mostly paid or top-level volunteer staff people, with just a few politicians — Howard "Bo" Callaway from Georgia, Nixon's Southern campaign chief, Gov. Walter Hefel of Maryland and Rep. Sen. Roman Hruska, who had served as regional chiefs from their area.

This was the inner core, the men closest to Nixon. Many of them have never played the presidential game before, and it took awhile for the glow to come so they could get down to business.

The vice presidential candidate had to be discussed. Among some Nixon advisers there was a strong feeling New York City Mayor John Lindsay should be the running mate, to draw the city vote, to add sex appeal and a progressive new polish to the campaign.

Others disagreed strongly. Lindsay is too controversial among conservative Republicans — and therefore the South — for them, they argued.

Illinois Sen. Charles Tower was out of the running. Some of the staff are bitter over his agreement to endorse and then work for Nixon at the convention before a sudden switch to Nelson Rockefeller. A secret poll of the Illinois delegation had also shown only half his home state delegates wanted him.

They went over the long list, weighing attitudes and habits.

Down the hall, in President's suite.



Convention '68

'Wisconsin did it. Rockefeller just called me Reagan, too. This is a great night.'

— RICHARD NIXON

house B, 20, governors, senators, congressmen, delegates and former Republican officeholders were gathered in the circular, gold-theme living room.

The room, with its gold carpet, gold-splashed wallpaper, gold and beige sectional sofa, gold drapes and large crystal chandelier seemed packed and oppressive.

This is where Nixon had spent the evening, watching the Convention proceedings on television, telephoning strategists on the floor and in his communications trailer in back of the hall.

The group pacing in the room now included Barry Goldwater, Thomas E. Dewey, former Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Florida Republican chief William Muffin, South Carolina Sen. Strom Thurmond, Hawaii Sen. Hiram Fong and Governors Louie Nunn of Kentucky, James Rhodes of Ohio and Republican gubernatorial candidate Richard Ogilvie of Illinois.

Each had been contacted during the afternoon or evening, some of them by Nixon himself, asking them to come meet with him as soon as the nomination was a fact.

They had come to the 15th floor, identified themselves to the Secret Service, and then taken up in a special elevator serving only the top three floors.

As Nixon continued to talk with his staff, they began to get restless and hungry. There was a bar at one side of the room, and some mixed themselves a drink. They were hungry. Somebody found a refrigerator, but it contained only a huge bowl of grapes. The refrigerator door kept opening and closing as the politicians went back to get more. Muffin pulled an electric razor and shaved quickly.

The rumor was out that Goldwater had warned that he would publicly split with Nixon if Lindsay was the choice. Strom Thurmond, who had held the South steady against the Reagan attack, might once again leap into a third party.

As the staff got deeper into the discussion, the dilemma worsened.

Oregon Gov. Mark Hatfield's opposition to the

Vietnam war, could split the party. Minority leader Sen. Everett Dirksen was pushing his son-in-law, Sen. Howard Baker of Tenn., who was young, fairly attractive, but not well known. He might not catch on in the cities of the Northeast or the West Coast.

Shortly after 4 a.m. with the question unsettled, Nixon said he could no longer keep the men down the hall waiting.

He walked the 30 feet to Penthouse B, the complexity of the problem nagging him. He had confided to a reporter about midnight that the delay in deciding on the running mate was uncharacteristic of him. There would be a tough inner-party fight, he had predicted.

By the time Nixon reached the living room, Evangelist Billy Graham had joined the party leaders. Nixon shook hands, thanked each man for his effort, and repeated his requirements for

a vice president.

He must be a man who could make a good president if anything happened to him, Nixon said. He must appeal to the cities, but with acceptance in the South and Midwest as well.

There was not as much debate in this group as there had been with the staff advisers. Thurmond recounted his efforts for Nixon. Goldwater gave his views.

Graham spoke up about 5 a.m. and said the country needs strong spiritual leadership. Some of the men made notes on envelopes. Other had small notebooks.

The favorite with many seemed to be Reagan. Everybody seemed to agree, however, that Reagan would not accept the number two spot.

"Lyndon Johnson said that, too, but he changed his mind," one man pointed out.

Gov. John Volpe of Massa-

chusetts, Rep. Rogers Morton of Maryland, who had managed the floor strategy for Nixon, and Gov. Spiro T. Agnew of Maryland who had nominated him seemed to rub nobody the wrong way.

Muffin proposed Rep. George Bush of Texas, a sleeper, who would suddenly catch fire on television with his young good looks. Texas, Muffin pointed out, is extremely important.

About 5:30 a.m., with everyone beginning to yawn and rub his eyes, the meeting broke up. Nixon stayed a little longer, talking to the few who wanted to speak more privately with him.

At 6:30, Nixon went across the hall to Penthouse A, made several telephone calls, then went to bed and slept for an hour.

When he woke, he was on the telephone again.

At 9 a.m., he went down in a fresh suit to the Jackie of Hearts Room on the mezzanine floor, a large meeting room with red carpeting and wallpaper where a huge table had been set up with a yellow-green tablecloth and circular trays of glasses and pitchers of ice water.

This meeting included Congressman Gerald Ford, Michigan, Morton of Maryland, and Bob Wilson of California. Sens. Dirksen of Illinois, John Tower of Texas and George Murphy of California. National Party chairman Ray Bliss, Lt. Gov. Bob Finch of California, Wisconsin state chairman Gay Flak, and Peter J. Donnelly, Texas delegation chairman.

The press was told that it would last an hour or less. Newsmen began to gather in the American Scene room down the hall.

At 10:45, Press Secretary Herb Klein came in and said the meeting was still going on. There was a pitched battle going on, apparently, inside.

Word leaked out that Dirksen was holding out. Tower held Thurmond's proxy and he began to exercise it. The group was loaded with Texas and California Republican sentiment.

Klein kept coming into the American Scene room to announce further delays. Nixon began using the telephone. The group would separate into smaller groups, then gather around the table again.

It was nearly 1 p.m. when Nixon finally emerged and marched before the television cameras.

His announcement that Agnew had been chosen was met with stunned silence.



Richard Nixon Leaves Meeting

Florida's Nixon Votes

A Bitter Pill for Kirk

By JOHN McDERMOTT
Herald Political Writer

Florida's Republican delegation was caught between agonizing heartbreak and delegate diplomacy before finally giving Richard Nixon 32 of its 34 votes for president.

Now the story can be told — the inner struggle, the pressures, the behind-the-scenes skirmishing, and the tears.

This is a story of a delegation that kept the faith with

Nixon because he had — as one delegate put it — "played it straight down the middle with us."

For Gov. Claude Kirk, Florida's Nixon vote shattered the final, even though remote, hope he had for recognition as either a "favorite son" or a vice presidential candidate.

By the same token, the vote represented victory once again for State Chairman

William F. Murfin, now "Mr. Florida Republican" and one of Nixon's advisers.

Murfin was among the GOP leaders who met with Nixon at his Hilton Hotel penthouse about 4 a.m. Thursday to discuss who would make an acceptable vice presidential running-mate.

In the final Nixon victory, Florida's 32 votes were significant because they marked the first big plus for the GOP nominee when the roll was

called. As 10th on the voting list, and the first big state — California had voted for Ronald Reagan — any major defection toward Reagan by Florida could have had an impact on the convention.

Rumors had been circulating that in the final show-down Reagan would get a majority from Florida.

If that had happened, Reagan, not Nixon, would have gotten the state's 32 votes because of a "gentlemen's agreement."

The two non-Nixon votes by Florida delegates were cast by Kirk, a Rockefeller supporter, and Charles Yon of Blountstown, who had committed himself to Reagan.

Rockefeller never was in the running. He would have picked up the vote of Leon Ell and possibly one or two others by the third or fourth ballot — but that would have been all.

On the floor Wednesday night as the zero hour neared, Reagan summoned his Florida backers one by one to his trailer outside the convention hall. He urged them to support him in the early round — and the personal Reagan appeal almost devastated the Florida ranks.

Meanwhile, Rockefellermen Michael O'Neil, Leonard Hall and Bill Miller were putting on their own squeeze.

They threatened to force a poll of the Florida delegation when the roll call was being conducted. This would have made each delegate name his choice — and for some of the delegation's 16 women to call out "Nixon" when they wanted "Reagan" was causing a great deal of anguish.

But no poll was called for — perhaps because Kirk, who could have forced the polling, was not on the floor when the Florida vote was called. Kirk had left the Convention Hall to go to the Liberty City area where rioting had broken out.

Before leaving, he gave Murfin his instructions on how to cast his vote. It said simply: "Rockefeller."

Kirk returned to the hall just before the roll call of the states was completed and Nixon was the nominee. Would he support Nixon?

He said he would.

Kirk said his preference was a Rockefeller-Reagan ticket but he always considered Nixon "my good friend" and a man who would "make a fine candidate and a wonderful president."

Florida, like many of the other Southern states supporting Nixon was jarred Wednesday night before the balloting began when the early editions of The Miami Herald were distributed in large numbers in Convention Hall by Reagan and Rockefeller supporters.

The big headline on Page One named Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon as the favorite for the vice presidential post.

The Florida delegates, almost in their entirety, were opposed to the selection of Hatfield or any other liberal Republican. Their preference was a Nixon-Reagan ticket.

Murfin himself had made a strong pitch to Nixon for Rep. George Bush of Texas.

A Rocky Backer Faces Up to Inevitable



Claude Kirk Does His Bit to Make Results of Balloting Unanimous
... when Nixon total passes the magic number, Florida governor dons a Nixon streamer



—Herald Staff Photos by RAY FISHER

Governor Squared His Jaw, Glanced Up a Moment, Then Joined Throng
... he was one of only two Florida delegates not to cast vote for the winner



Convention '68

"It's like little Nelson (age four) said: 'Daddy, if you don't win, we can play together more'."

— GOV. NELSON ROCKEFELLER

For Rocky: More Time With Kids

By JAMES K. BATTEN
Of Our Washington Bureau

After a hundred days of criss-crossing the nation in feverish pursuit of his old and elusive dream, Nelson A. Rockefeller woke up Thursday to the realization that the dream is dead.

It seemed as certain as anything can be in the uncertain game of politics that Rockefeller, the son of wealth who became a man of the people, now would never become president of the United States.

After watching his presidential ambitions go down the drain for the third time in eight years, the 60-year-old governor of New York was gracious and philosophical about his latest rebuff by the Republican Party.

"It's like little Nelson (age four) said: 'Daddy, if you don't win, we can play together more.'"

Less than 30 minutes after the Republicans nominated Richard Nixon in the early hours of Thursday morning, Rockefeller, accompanied by his wife, Happy, came down from his suite atop the Americana Hotel for one final press conference in Miami Beach.

Weariness and disappointment were written across the



Rocky Consolated by an Aide

... former Rep. William Miller, left

Rockefellers' faces. The governor gamely congratulated Nixon for "his spectacular success," explaining that he had just come from talking to Nixon by telephone.

Someone asked why he thought he had lost.

Rockefeller stared at the questioner for a long moment. Then he smiled and said, "Have you ever been to a Republican convention?"

There was no trace of bitterness in the remark. It was rather a tacit admission

that the Republican Party, in the years of Nelson Rockefeller's presidential aspirations, was not basically in harmony with his political philosophy. Then he made it more explicit:

"This convention genuinely prefers Dick Nixon, and I think that is true of the leadership of the party."

That was the indisputable fact that Rockefeller had cited back in March, when he surprised the experts — and wounded many of his most ardent supporters — by announcing that he would not be a candidate.

It was weeks later that he changed his mind and jumped into the race — a leap he didn't really want to take. "I didn't want to get into it," he reminded reporters early Thursday morning. "I didn't plan to get into it."

But that didn't mean he was sorry now about his belated decision to make the race.

"Every minute of it has been worthwhile to the future of the country," he said. He added that his three attempts for the White House — in 1960, 1964 and 1968 — "have left their mark on the thinking of the party."

Murfin: After Only Two Years He's 'Mr. Florida Republican'

By JIM MINTER

Herald Capital Bureau

It's 110 miles from the Hobe Square Pharmacy to Miami Beach Convention Hall. One hundred and 10 miles in two years.

In that brief span, Florida's undisputed Republican leader, William Murfin, has risen from a Hobe Sound truggist and amateur politician to a power wielder who nudged with Richard Nixon Thursday to pick a vice president.

Two years ago Murfin and a few local Republican clubbers couldn't maneuver a zoning change past the stacked antagonism of the wary old Democrats in the Martin County Courthouse.

Today he is head of the only real political party in recent Florida history. Against the massive but unorganized opposition of the Democrats' "no-party system," Murfin has pulled together a tightly-knit party of conservative Republicans.

It began with the drive to elect Florida's first Republican governor, Claude Kirk. But the party was noised and solidified after the elec-

tion by the fulltime work of Murfin, his staff and supporters. The party no longer needs Claude Kirk, as Kirk discovered when he tried to take control of it to boost his own national ambitions.

Murfin would never say it is "his" party. Soft-spoken, almost deferential, Murfin comes on as the team man. "We" this and "us" that.

If you're a conservative, Max Rafferty, could have written Murfin's remarks to you. If you're liberal, he can go at least as far as Chuck Percy.

To Florida's heavily-conservative Republican Party, Murfin talks mostly Rafferty. But he's no split personality. Murfin's true face is plain Republican. He's a pro now, and the name of his game is winning.

Not as conservative as Congressman Ed Gurney, Murfin still backed him for the GOP senate nod over St. Petersburg senior Congressman Bill Cramer. Murfin saw the handsome Gurney as a more marketable candidate than Cramer.

But when Murfin came to



William Murfin

... suddenly a power

a showdown with Gov. Kirk, Cramer was in Murfin's corner, along with the rest of the state party — and Kirk was alone. Murfin is an operator.

It was, in fact, Murfin's defeat of Kirk that assured Nixon of Florida's 32 delegate votes and possibly even the nomination.

Murfin decided early that Nixon was the only man who could possibly win and still help the Florida party he has built. In caucuses with John

Tower and other southern leaders earlier this year, he committed to the Nixon team.

But ever-willing to compromise, he was still going along with Kirk as a favorite son, willing to let Kirk pick some of the delegates. A fight with Kirk would be bad for his infant party.

Only when Kirk's eager aides demanded all of the mathes so Kirk could be a convention wheeler-dealer, did Murfin move.

Murfin quietly lined up the party, picked his own state and then publicly chopped Kirk's aides for their "power grab." The governor awoke to find himself a general without an army. He caved in quickly and joined the Murfin state.

That's Murfin's method. He works quietly, generally leaves the speeches and drama to others and tries to compromise. But if he has to fight, he is sure and unforgiving.

Murfin is goal-oriented. And his goal has been a strong Republican Florida.

He'll Work for Ticket

Reagan Offers Aid; His Staff Eyes '72

By ROBERT H. FELDKAMP
Of Our Washington Bureau

Ronald Reagan, a defeated candidate but still a power, pledged his help to Richard Nixon Thursday, endorsed Maryland Gov. Spiro (Ted) Agnew as running mate and set about enjoying himself after a rugged, disappointing week.

Reagan, a distant third behind Nixon and New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller in the balloting, telephoned the winner in late morning to offer congratulations and reiterate his promise to help "in any way I can" during the campaign.

Even as the two Republicans were healing any scars that developed in the frantic pre-convention jockeying, Reagan faithful at his Deauville Hotel headquarters were talking about a Republican ticket to be headed by the governor in 1972.

The "1968" on "Reagan for President" signs that paper nearly every inch of the Deauville was scratched out before he returned from Convention Hall early Thursday, and "1972" was written in.

Reagan's conversation with the new GOP standard-bearer was described as short but cordial. The governor's communications director, Lyn Nofziger, said Reagan slept til 10:30 a.m. and called Nixon at 11.

"He congratulated Nixon and reiterated his pledge to support him and campaign with him," said Nofziger.

Obviously disappointed at missing his party's big prize, Reagan nevertheless appears in good political shape today.

His strongest attack on Nixon during the week was no more than a suggestion

that he could run stronger in the South. He refrained from calling Nixon a loser.

In short, Reagan can let Nixon come to him now. He probably wasn't hurt from his short, unhappy candidacy. And he can offer a strong dose of the glamor vitamin to a ticket that many believe will need it.

Campaign Priority Going to South and Big Cities

Nixon Must Win Votes on War, Crime and Ghettos

By CLARENCE JONES
Herald Staff Writer

The "new" Richard Nixon will change his campaign style, hoping to learn from the mistakes of the "old" Richard Nixon who narrowly missed the White House eight years ago.

Based on a week of conversations with Nixon aides, and remarks of the candidate himself, this is how the 1968 Nixon campaign will shape up:

Nixon will spend less time traveling and more time in major cities where the votes are.

The South — which could throw its electoral votes to George Wallace and the election into the House of Representatives — will have top campaign priority.

He will run against Lyndon Johnson and the mistakes of his administration, no matter who the Democrats nominate. In 1960, he was an incumbent vice president asking for a promotion in a defensive position. This time, as an "out," he will be on the attack.

Television will play a

greater role. He has learned how to use it more skillfully, and seems to have overcome the gun-shyness that followed his television debates with John F. Kennedy. Most observers felt he fumbled those debates badly.

★ ★ ★

DOMESTIC problems — especially violent crime and racial unrest — will share billing with Vietnam and international monetary problems. In 1960, before ghettos began to burn, the cold war and relations with Russia overshadowed domestic issues.

Issues — rather than the amenities of political backscratching, will be the campaign focal point.

Nixon's stand on those issues will be polished to an appealing luster by a staff that surpasses even the men around John and Robert Kennedy for hard, professional practicality.

In 1960, Nixon pledged to campaign in every state. Later, he regreted it. Some days, he spent more time in the air than on the ground. The whistle-stop tours were

designed not only to let voters see him, but to pep up local Republican workers.

This time, his staff feels that Nixon and national chairman Ray Bliss have already fed and satisfied local party egos. Nixon's matchless organization build-up has given local leaders either personal contact with the candidate or a first-name relationship with those closest to him.

If local conflicts arise, most problems can be solved without a personal Nixon visit or involvement.

★ ★ ★

NIXON, LIKE candidates for governor in Florida, has learned that maximum, all-day exposure in a metropolitan area reaches more voters than a week in the backwaters.

The results are more pronounced in presidential politics because of the Electoral College system, which gives every state's vote to the winner in that state.

Nixon plans to capitalize on uneasiness and frustration that is deeply troubling both urban and rural voters. Carefully worded attacks can

make the Democrats seem to be responsible for whatever is disturbing the listener.

The south will be crucial because of Wallace's campaign. Nixon may kiss off as



Nixon at Mike

...more at ease, now

impossible any attempt to win Alabama and Mississippi. Significantly, when he met with regional groups of delegates last Tuesday, Alabama and Mississippi were not included.

Most Republicans feel that if Wallace prevents a majority of the two major parties, then the House will give the presidency to the Democrats.

★ ★ ★

THIS IS NIXON'S greatest campaign dilemma — appealing to the rural, conservative South which he must do to win, and wooing voters in the major industrial centers of the North and Midwest.

From what he said here this week, Nixon — to stop erosion of his support by Wallace — will adopt many of the hard-line attitudes about racial unrest that Wallace is preaching. Nixon has learned from Wallace's experience that this can appeal not only to southern whites, but also to white and blue-collar workers in the North who normally would vote with the Democrats.

The major industrial cities, torn by riots, have created a strong backlash among whites that Nixon can exploit.

The near schizophrenia that has gripped the nation — fear of black violence and a wild-eyed national self-doubt over Vietnam — can be channeled into anger against the Democrats.

By continuing to remind voters of his partnership with President Dwight Eisenhower in the 1950's, Nixon will make many of them recall the comparative stability of that era and long for a return to less complicated days.

★ ★ ★

ALTHOUGH Nixon will use well-known Negroes like basketball star Wilt Chamberlain to make it appear that he is striving for a unified racial vote, the practical members of his staff know that it must be a token effort. The Democrats will get the Negro vote.

Nixon has learned to control television. He avoids, whenever possible, the unrehearsed open mike or camera that might catch an instant

which would later return to haunt him.

He devotes a great deal of effort to briefings before press conferences so that he can appear relaxed on camera and have the answer rolling out practically before the question is asked.

He has learned to ride one answer into another, barely related subject, on which he wants to make a point. He still is not as loose and personable on television as he is off-camera, because of his caution.

On Vietnam, Nixon will recall the Eisenhower Administration's ending of the war in Korea and push hard on the "de-Americanization" of the conflict in Vietnam, which can be interpreted in many ways.

On this issue, perhaps more than any other, he will try to walk a middle of the road tightrope, throwing out phrases to both the hawks and the doves, designed to make them feel he is leaning their way, without coming out strongly on his position until after he is inaugurated.

	Ford	Alb	Laird	Rhodes	Reid	Kupferman	Price	BUSH
<u>Civil Rights</u>								
H. R. 2516	Y		Y		Y			Y
Send to conference (vote was against cf)	N		N		Y			N
Final passage	Y		Y		Y			Y
<u>Tax Increase and spending cuts</u>								
Burke Amendment	N		N		N			N
Final Passage	Y		Y		Y			Y
<u>Crime Control Act</u>								
Block Grants	Y		Y		N			Y
Final Passage	Y		Y		Y			Y
<u>Gun Bill</u>								
	Y		Y		Y		N	Y
<u>Urban Affairs</u>								
<u>Housing Bill</u>								
Eligibility restriction	Y		Y		N		Y	Y
Final Passage	Y		N		Y		N	Y
<u>Economic Opportunity Crusade</u>								
Recommittal	Y			for	N		Y	Y
Final Passage	N			N	Y		N	Y
<u>Spending Reductions</u>								
(based on 8 ACA votes for reductions or limits on spending)	100%	100%	86% *	88%*	37%	77%	100%	100%
<u>Elementary and Secondary Education Act</u>								
Recommittal - Quie	Y		Y		N			Y
Final Passage	N		N		Y			N

Housing Bill

* Laird and Rhodes are a little out of wack because they missed 1 and 2 votes respectively. But neither would have been 100%.

September 4, 1968

Dear George,

I got back to the office today and found your kind letter of the 30th.

Your suggestion as to a dinner has tremendous appeal to me. It would probably be better to do it in the late Fall after the election or in the winter, but it would be terrific.

We just returned from a week in Maine and Friday I start in on the campaign trail introducing Nixon in Houston and keeping on the go from that day on.

Don't answer this.

Best regards,

Mr. George Champion
1 Chase Manhattan Plaza
New York, N. Y. 10005

RECEIVED

SEP 2 1968

GEORGE CHAMPION
1 CHASE MANHATTAN PLAZA
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10005

August 30, 1968

Dear George:

Your letter is deeply appreciated and one I shall always prize.

I am sure you know how much Dick Nixon thinks of you. Indeed, I feel confident if you had had one more term in the Congress there would have been little question about the outcome at the Convention. We can agree or disagree with that decision, but I only want to say that through it all you came out with flags flying at the highest. I don't know of anyone who has been so universally praised for the way you handled yourself during that difficult time.

It has been a great privilege for me to work with some of your many friends in trying to bring about a great and constructive program. When I read of the things that took place in Chicago I realized more and more the vital need of this country to have men of your stature, character and ability placed in top positions of leadership.

Delighted to see you are on the campaign trail for Dick.

Sometime I would like ever so much to have a little dinner for you here, in order that some of my friends in the business world may have the opportunity of a more intimate acquaintance with you than is possible at any large gathering.

Very best wishes to Barbara and yourself.

Sincerely,



The Honorable George Bush
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Alcena
HAND WRITTEN THANK-YOU NOTES FROM GB WERE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING:

✓ J. William Middendorf, II
Middendorf & Colgate
80 Broad Street X
New York, New York

✓ James S. Bush X
49 Main Street
Stonington, Conn.

✓ Mrs. Norman Harrower, Jr. X
144 Edgehill Rd.
New Haven, Conn.

✓ Bill Murfin (state GOP chrm.) X
325 6th. Street, SE
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

George Champion
435 East 52nd.
New York, New York 10022

Thomas J. Devine
375 Park Avenue rm 1906
New York, New York 10022

Thomas E. Dewey (The Honorable)
140 Broadway
New York, New York 10005

William Steiger (The Honorable)
684 Oak Street X
Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

William Cowger (The Honorable)
140 South 5th. Street #107 X
Louisville, Ky. 40202

Donald W. Riegle, Jr. (The Honorable) X
1210 Blanchard
Flint, Michigan 48503 (home)

Albert S. Cole (Pres., Readers Digest)
200 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Fletcher Thompson (The Honorable)
2631 Hogan Rd. X
East Point, Georgia 30344 (home)

Ody J. Fish (GOP state chrm)
324 High Street
Tewaukee, Wisconsin

Hon. James Hewgley X
Mayor of Tulsa
City Hall
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101

Hon. John Paul Hammerschmidt X
End of Ridge Park Road
Harrison, Arkansas 72601

Mr. Jim Holshauser (GOP State Chr.)
P.O. Box 328
Doone, No. Carolina 28607

"Bo" Calloway
Calloway Gardens
Pine ?, Georgia

J. D. Stetson Coleman cc:
1665 North Ocean Blvd Archwood Farm
Delray Beach, Florida The Plains, Va.

{ George L. Coleman.
1029 North Ocean Blvd
Palm Beach, Fla:

{ also secretary office at
First National Bank
Miami, Okla.

% Powell Visser
425 Detroit
Flint, Michigan 48502 (district office)

*Rec from New York
8-27-68
AS*

Thank you letters

8-19-68

I wrote
thank u's to
these on
V.P. check
save

✓ Mr. George Champion

435 East 53rd.

New York, New York 10022

✓ The Honorable Thomas E. Dewey

140 Broadway

New York, New York 10005 (office)

✓ Mr. Thomas J. Devine

375 Park Avenue #1906

New York, New York 10022

✓ The Honorable William Steiger

684 Oak Street

Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901 (home)

✓ The Honorable William Cowger

140 South 5th. St. #107

Louisville, Kentucky 40202

The Honorable Donald W. Riegler, Jr.

1210 Blanchard

Flint, Michigan 48503 (home)

✓ Mr. Albert S. Cole

~~200 Park Avenue~~ Roundhill Rd.

~~New York, New York 10017~~

Brownsville, Conn.

✓ The Honorable Fletcher Thompson

2631 Hogan Rd.

East Point, Georgia 30344 (home)

✓ Mr. Ody J. Fish (GOP state chrm)

324 High Street

Tewaukee, Wisconsin

✓ Hon. James Hewgley

Mayor of Tulsa

City Hall

Tulsa, Oklahoma 7401

Hon. John Paul Hammerschmidt

✓ End of Ridge Park Road

Harrison, Arkansas 72601

✓ Mr. Jim Holshauser, N. Carolina GOP chrm

P.O. Box 328

Doone, No. Carolina 28607

c/o Powell Visser

425 Detroit

Flint, Michigan 48502 (district office)

Howard

✓ "Bo" Calloway

Pine Mountain Ga.

Wm. Minton - 325 6th St. S.E. Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Wm. C. Litcher

Roy Winchester

Hunter Martin

Penn. govt - United
Northwest Tower, Room 7700
Bldg.

Geo. L. Coleman - 1029 N. Ocean Blvd.
Palm Beach, Fla.

Stets Coleman - 1665 N. Ocean Blvd.
Melroy Beach, Fla.

✓ Middelmont, J. Wm.
Bill &
80 Broad St. NY 10004

✓ Hammer
144 Edgemoor Rd. New Haven, Conn.

✓ Guier, Miss Betty - (Delaware)
2455 TUNAWAY, N.W. - Wash.

✓ Kleppe, Tom. 233 Divide Ave.
Bismarck, N.D. 58501

Mr. Howard "Bo" Calloway
Pine Mountain, Ga.

Mr. J. Wm. Middendorf
36 Husted Lane
Greenwich, Conn. 06830

Mrs. Tina Harrower
144 Edgehill Road
New Haven, Conn.

Miss Betty Grider
2455 Tunlaw Rd., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Cong. Tom Kleppe
233 Divide Ave.
Bismarck, N. D. 58501

Mr. Wm. Murfin
326 6th St., S.E.
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Wm. C. Liedtke
Pennzoil-United
Southwest Tower Bldg.
Houston, Texas 77002

Mr. Roy Winchester
Pennzoil-United
Southwest Tower Bldg.
Houston, Texas 77002

Mr. Hunter Martin
Pennzoil-United
Southwest Tower Bldg.
Houston, Texas 77002

Mr. George L. Coleman
1029 N. Ocean Blvd.
Palm Beach, Fla.

Mr. Stets Coleman
1665 N. Ocean Blvd.
Delray Beach, Fla.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

People to Thank =

✓ 1 Sturgeon. ✓ 60 George Champion -

✓ 2 Middendorf 70 Bill L.

✓ 3 Tina H ✓ 8 T.J.

✓ 4 (Bo Calloway) ✓ 9 Tim Hengley

✓ 5 Bill Martin 10. (O'Donnell)

11. Dewey

12. ~~Adams~~ Ody J. Fish

Communiste Chama - Ford congrats

13. Tom Kloppe

Bill Cowger

John Paul Hammerschmidt

Don Riegler

Comm. Jim Holshausen (?) N.C.

Al Cole - Reader Digest

Eletcher Thompson

Greer Delaware

Ralph Rogers

Margaret

August 23, 1968

Dear Mr. Steiger,

On the list of names sent you this week
at Mr. Bush's request.....we had a letter
returned addressed to:

Mr. Albert S. Cole.

I got another address this morning from
Mr. Bush's mother. It is:

Roundhill Road
Greenwich, Conn.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Hargrove Smith
Sec'y to George Bush, M.C.

The Honorable Wm. A. Steiger
Rm. 201, Post Office Bldg.
Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

a GOP Ticket

The Agnew Choice

By Richard Harwood

Washington Post Staff Writer

MIAMI BEACH, Aug. 8—With his feet up and a brandy in his hand, Richard Nixon has often mused in recent months that if he had his way he'd pick Bob Finch as his Vice President.

Nixon had his way today, and instead of his old friend Finch, the California Lieutenant Governor, he picked the equally obscure Governor of Maryland, Spiro Agnew.

Charles Percy, Mark Hatfield, Raymond Shafer and George Romney were merely a few of the thousands of politicians who were stunned when the news hit this sweltering, exhausted city at noon.

Percy said it best: "I guess I can say what Gov. Agnew said—I'm shocked." Shafer, his friends reported, was "livid with rage" and Romney's people were talking in mid-afternoon about a mini-revolution on the convention floor.

Even Nixon's staff and his field lieutenants were baffled or grumbling or both. How and why, people wanted to know, did Nixon come up with a man who

See VEEP, A13, Col. 5



United Press International

Gov. Spiro T. Agnew of Maryland as he delivered his speech placing Richard Nixon's name in nomination Wednesday.

No. 2 Choice Is Compromise

VEEP, From A1

was such a dark horse that the only time Nixon mentioned him to reporters in recent weeks was to observe:

"I guess you would have to call him a real dark horse."

The answer to that riddle, from all accounts, is that Agnew's selection was the inevitable product of a committee compromise that began at 2 a.m., ended at noon, and involved such diverse personalities as evangelist Billy Graham, Barry Goldwater, and Nixon's long-time personal secretary, Miss Rose Mary Woods.

Participants in that marathon gathering on the 18th floor of the Hilton Plaza Hotel said it took hours for everyone to reach agreement on the specifications for a Republican vice-presidential candidate in 1968.

But by dawn they had agreed on the precise specifications that Nixon himself had outlined days before:

- That Nixon and his running mate had to be philosophically attuned—"sympatico" was the word Nixon used a little after midnight in a conversation with two reporters.

- That the man should be healthy and ambitious enough to wage, in Nixon's words, a "hard campaign." In demanding that criterion, it is thought that Nixon had in mind his experience in 1960 with Henry Cabot Lodge who was, as someone put it, "not exactly a glutton for work."

- That he should be someone with an interest and background in the seething problems of the cities.

- That he not be so "liberal" or so "conservative" that he would "offend" anyone or split the party.

- That he should be capable of being President.

These five characteristics became, said Gov. Louie Nunn of Kentucky (one of Nixon's pre-dawn visitors) the "yardstick" against which all potential candidates were measured.

In Nixon's mind, there

was yet another criterion—that his running mate should be a man who could help cut into George Wallace's considerable following in the urban states of the North without, at the same time, offending Northern politicians like Nelson Rockefeller, Romney and Mayor John Lindsay of New York.

So far as Nixon was concerned, Agnew was well tailored for that role. He had, as one of Nixon's men explained it today, "long-standing liberal views." On top of that, he had made quite an impact on blue-collar whites with his talk to Negro militants in the course of racial upheavals in Maryland this year. "We will not tolerate those few who would take the law into their own hands," Agnew had said.

With that in mind and with "yardsticks" in hand, Nixon and the 55 people who passed in and out of his rooms early today began looking over the field.

For openers, they eliminated Ronald Reagan and Rockefeller on the theory that both had told the truth when they said they wouldn't run.

Pennsylvania's Gov. Shaffer was eliminated, it is understood, because he was too closely associated with Rockefeller's presidential candidacy. George Bush, the Texas Congressman, was crossed off because he isn't a Senator. Lindsay of New York, a Nixon man said, "would have made a hell of a guy—in another year, in different circumstances." Hatfield was considered a bit unreliable because, among other things, he had said a few months ago that he would vote for Robert Kennedy if Nixon were nominated.

Many names were voted up and down, and in the end, "well informed" sources reported, these were the survivors:

Sen. Howard Baker of Tennessee, Gov. John Volpe of Massachusetts, Rep. Rogers C. B. Morton of Maryland, Rep. Gerald Ford of Michigan, Sen. John Tower of Texas, Romney, Percy Finch and Agnew.

By the time this list emerged, Nixon had talked in person to the most conservative men in his party—Goldwater, Everett Dirksen, Sen. Karl Mundt of North Dakota, Howard "Bo" Callaway of Georgia, Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, Sen. George Murphy of California, Tower of Texas, and Sen. Roman Hruska of Nebraska.

They were later described by a liberal Senator from the Midwest as "nothing but a bunch of Red-baiters."

Nixon also consulted with some of the "moderates" of his party—Thomas E. Dewey and Herbert Brownell of New York, Gov. James Rhodes of Ohio, and Sen. Jack Miller of Iowa.

But the Republican "liberals"—Rockefeller, Lindsay, Hatfield, and Percy—were never called in.

Nor was Sen. Edward Brooke, the Massachusetts Negro. So far as is known,

in fact, no Negro leader was consulted by Nixon.

A little before noon, the last meeting ended and Nixon had to make a choice. He called Agnew at 12:25 p.m. and 10 minutes later announced his decision to the press.

The first reaction of many delegates was brief. "Who?" they asked.

A few Republicans were bitter. But they were in the minority, for the simple reason that Agnew was not well-enough known to arouse much controversy.

But Nixon himself was said to believe that he had made the best choice—a man acceptable to South and North who could not only help win the election but could help govern the United States by appearing—as Nixon sees himself—as a unifying force in American life.

"We chose," said one of Nixon's closest associates, "the positive middle ground."

Obscure Governor On Ticket

Why Was Agnew Picked?

Nobody Could Knock Him

By JOHN BECKLER

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—

Why did Richard M. Nixon choose the relatively obscure governor of a small state as his vice presidential candidate?

The answer is that he didn't necessarily choose the man he thought could help him the most when he picked Gov. Spiro T. Agnew of Maryland. He chose the man he hoped would hurt him the least in his divided party.

"No one could say anything bad about him," was how a key participant in the meetings that led to Agnew's selection put it. From this source and others the Associated Press has pieced together the outlines, at least, of the making of a vice presidential candidate.

It began even before Nixon's first ballot victory in the early hours of Thursday morning.

About 20 minutes earlier Nixon met with his closest staff advisers in his penthouse apartment on the beach to start discussing a running mate. The meeting went on with an ever-changing cast for nearly 12 hours, with only an hour out for sleep by Nixon.

Appeasing South

When Nixon finally emerged to say Agnew was his choice a shockwave traveled through the crammed hotels, jolting especially the followers of Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, who immediately charged Nixon with trying to appease his southern supporters.

The charge was denied by Nixon aides, but there was no denying the satisfaction that Agnew's selection brought to most southerners.

"The South got a candidate it can accept," said South Carolina Sen. Strom Thurmond, one of Nixon's most influential southern supporters, "while the big cities did not get who they said they had to have."

He was referring to Mayor John V. Lindsay of New York, Sen. Charles H. Percy of Illinois, and Sen. Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon, the favorites of the big city Republicans.

The basis of the charge of appeasement was Nixon's promise to southern delegates before the convention balloting that he would pick a vice president acceptable to all parts of the nation.

Nixon made the overture to the southern delegates when it began to appear that California's Gov. Ronald Reagan was picking up support in the South in his bid for the presidential nomination. The South stayed with Nixon and gave him more than 300 of the 667 convention votes he needed.

No Veto Power

Nixon aides and Thurmond insisted the southerners did not exercise any veto over prospective candidates, but there was some plain talk to a Florida caucus by the state's GOP chairman, Bill Murfin, who took part in the discussions.

He told his delegation that southern spokesmen quickly vetoed Hatfield and told Nixon that Lindsay and Percy could not be named "without con-

siderable objection by me, of those brought up fell before this test.

Murfin said when the discussions ended the only men apparently acceptable to all participants were Agnew, Gov. John Volpe of Massachusetts and Rep. George Bush of Texas.

The liberals among Nixon's consultants also made their weight felt, according to participants. Here is one's account:

"Reagan was nixed by the liberals and Lindsay was nixed by the conservatives. (Sen. John) Tower (of Texas) had qualifications but some felt that his selection would mean that Nixon had embraced the right wing of the party."

In all, about 20 names were brought into the discussions, but there was never a formal list. Just when Agnew's name popped up and who suggested it is not clear, but here is one version:

Agnew's name was first mentioned by "Nixon leadership people." There was little reaction and the discussion proceeded to other possible candidates. But at each lull in the talks, usually after four or five people had been discussed, someone on the Nixon staff would ask, "Well, how about Spiro?"

When this had happened several times some of those present began to get the idea that Nixon wanted Agnew. There was never much reaction to the question; one way or the other, they said.

All agreed that Nixon did little talking at the meetings. He had made it clear there were several major criteria any successful candidate would have to meet:

He wanted someone with executive ability, someone he could work well with, someone who could wage a good campaign and someone who might appeal to the ethnic vote. Many

of those brought up fell before this test.

Nixon had also indicated he would like to name someone who had been identified with Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York, his chief challenger for the presidential nomination.

If this is true, he missed the mark badly with Agnew.

Agnew had been an early supporter of Rockefeller's but when the New York governor made his surprise decision not to run he pulled the rug out from under Agnew and the Marylander wound up playing an important role in Nixon's nomination.

Many people were stunned when Agnew was selected, but few were as angry as Rockefeller, who looked on Agnew as a deserter. Rockefeller reportedly was so incensed he refused an invitation to appear with Nixon on the convention platform Thursday night. Instead, he made a brief appearance alone and made no mention of Agnew in his remarks.

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

Miami Beach has had its first national political convention; the Republicans are going home and Richard Nixon has come back from wherever also-rans go. So Nixon, twice vice president, a former senator, unsuccessful in races for the presidency and the governorship of California, will lead his party as presidential nominee in November. His running mate, a surprise choice who so far seems to be neither very controversial nor very inspiring, will be Gov. Spiro T. Agnew of Maryland. There's your ticket, Republicans, and we'll know after the Democrats meet later this month in Chicago what the other side has to offer.

*Miami News Color Photo by Jay Spencer,
Art Work by Miami News Artist Jim Fernandez*



BLUE STREAK—FINAL EDITION

THE MIAMI NEWS

73 Years of Publishing
Miami, Florida

Friday, August 9, 1968

52 Pages 10 Cents

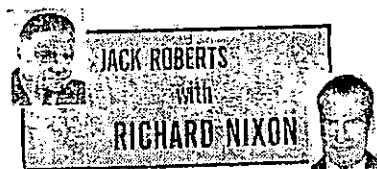
Telephone 350-2941

EXCLUSIVE

The
New York
Times News
Service



How His V.P. Pick Backfired



Richard Nixon has only himself to blame for the trouble generated by his selection of Spiro Agnew as his Republican running mate.

The story goes back more than a week, when his campaign staff arrived in Miami Beach for the Republican convention.

Long before Nixon had the nomination locked up, his press secretary, Herb Klein, explained how the vice presidential nominee would be picked. He said questionnaires had been sent out to 300 leading Republicans across the country by Mr. Nixon, asking for their advice on a running mate.

Nixon set forth three qualifications: He wanted a running mate qualified to be President, a good campaigner and vote-getter and a man whose views were compatible with his own — in that order.

This threw the nomination open to some 12 contenders, roughly, and Klein added that the final choice would be made immediately after Mr. Nixon won the nomination and held a meeting with a few key advisers.

Daily, Klein repeated the formula for picking the vice presidential nominee. He did not name the specific hopefuls and kept repeating it was wide open.

No one believed him. But as more and more newsmen arrived from all parts of the country the pressure mounted for information. News leaks from deep within the Nixon organization said that Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon was the logical choice — that he was colorful, attractive, neither big city nor rural and a friend of Mr. Nixon's. His only drawback was being one of the early doves on the war.

The news leaks caused pressure from the Eastern establishment, which wanted a Rockefeller or a Lindsay, and the South, which wanted a Reagan or a Tower. But no one suspected there might be a dark horse compromise.

After Nixon got the nomination, the timetable was rather precise. He would meet with advisers and make his announcement at 10 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. yesterday.

But instead of one set of advisers, Nixon ended up

Continued on Page 9A, Col. 1

How Nixon's Final Selection Of Running Mate Backfired

Continued from Page 1A

with three groups. His meeting with the last group broke up at 11:15 a.m. while some 300 newsmen waited in a nearby room on the mezzanine of the Hilton Plaza Hotel.

But instead of going to the press meeting, Nixon retired to his penthouse suite to confer with a fourth set of advisers and it was announced there would be a delay of 45 minutes. Press Secretary Klein said it was obvious that there was some trouble with the selection.

When Nixon finally appeared almost three hours later than originally expected and announced his choice was the somewhat obscure Gov. Agnew, it was just too much.

The TV people from New York, who had been guiding the convention like they were producing a Broadway play,

went racing from one delegation to another. Some observers accused them of trying to stir up a revolt against Agnew. A minor revolt did follow and was put down on the convention floor.

The consensus of the most impartial newsmen covering the Nixon proceedings was that: 1. He had taken too long with his decision; 2. He had gathered in too many advisers. (By his own admission he consulted more than 100 people); and 3. He violated his own criteria for a vice president by picking a man who was not a proven vote-getter.

If Nixon loses the general election this Fall the people in those strategy meetings will be writing books for years to come.

Selection of Spiro Agnew was no fluke

By ROBERT J. DONOVAN
The Los Angeles Times

MIAMI BEACH — Richard M. Nixon was laying it on a bit thick when he described his candidacy as a conjunction of a man and a moment in history, and to have brought Spiro T. Agnew into this mystical confluence would have been altogether too much.

In less exalted terms, however, Nixon had a point. The very nature of the times makes him a formidable candidate.

The American people have had it with war, inflation, crime and violence. Hubert Humphrey is not to blame. Things might not have been any different if the Republicans had been in power, and the 1968 Republican platform offers no ready solutions.

But the cry for change rings through the land. It is entirely plausible now that 1968 should be a Republican year. The pendulum must be gathering force for the party that has been out of power for 36 years except for Dwight D. Eisenhower's two terms.

What remains uncertain is middle-aged, middle-class America can—and will—effect the transfer of power to the Republican party, for clearly, it is middle-aged and middle-class America to which the Nixon-Agnew ticket and the Republican platform direct their appeal.

To the young, to the poor, to the

restless, to the intellectuals, to the liberals, Nixon and Agnew have little appeal. Even the Republican progressives departed Miami Beach in disgust.

Nixon was under no illusions about it. He knows whose votes he is after. He perfectly characterized the voice of his sought-for constituency in his acceptance speech:

"It is the voice of the great majority of Americans, the forgotten Americans, the nonshouters, the nondemonstrators. They are not racist or sick. They are not guilty of the crime that plagues the land. They are black and they are white. . . they work in America's factories. They ruin American business. They serve in government. They provide most of the soldiers who died to keep us free. . . They are good people, decent people. They work, they save, they pay their taxes, they care."

Nixon has made his gamble on these people. He has decided that they are not bothered by the fact that Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S. C.), one of the worst reactionaries in Congress, helped him indispensably in holding the votes of the Southern delegates in the convention.

The liberals here groaned over Agnew's recent statement that police officers should not hesitate to shoot looters during riots when they refuse to obey orders to halt, but will that sound outrageous

to Nixon's constituency? Not at all.

The Republican nominee brought the house down at the final session when he promised with all the right inflections that "We are going to have a new attorney general of the United States." As if any new President would not appoint a new Cabinet! But Nixon's Attorney General, he let it be known, is going to be a no-nonsense chap. The suburbs will be hearing a good deal more about him as November approaches.

The way Nixon astonished the delegates with his choice of a running mate was the most hilarious thing that has happened at a Republican convention since Charlie Halleck thought he had Thomas E. Dewey's assurances of the vice presidential nomination in 1948.

Liberals tore out their hair, reporters guffawed, and John S. Knight, publisher of the Miami Herald, spoke for just about everybody when he demanded in his daily column, "Who the hell is Agnew?"

Since Dallas it is hard to take the vice presidency lightly. The very thought that a man of Agnew's experience, however honorable and decent, might suddenly be put in charge of American diplomacy and the American nuclear arsenal is sobering.

But as a running mate in the

kind of campaign Nixon has planned, Agnew is no fluke. He may not help Nixon bring in votes, but, barring a boner, he may not hurt him either, except among voters who would not be for Nixon anyhow. Apart from these, Agnew does not make anyone angry, and his image is quite acceptable to the Nixon constituency.

For unorthodox times the Republican party has nominated an orthodox ticket. Gunnar Myrdal, the Swedish sociologist, recently estimated that it would take at least one trillion dollars to make America's cities livable. While the Republicans agreed to the need for urban renovation, no such figure as this was bandied about in Miami Beach.

By 1972 voting patterns in the United States will be radically changed by the wave of youth coming of age and the increasing numbers of Negroes who go to the polls.

The constituency that Nixon described Thursday night may be the minority by then. But in 1968 these good and decent people who work, save and pay taxes have the strength to elect the next President, and the Democratic nominee had better lose no time getting to them after the Chicago convention.

Anyone who does not take the Nixon-Agnew ticket seriously is a romantic.

WILLIAM S. WHITE

Nixon triumphs over personal disasters

MIAMI BEACH—Richard Nixon's triumph here is a victory over many things, including a staggering march of personal disasters, but perhaps most of all a victory over Richard Nixon himself as he used to be.

Neither the Old Nixon nor the New was ever short on competence. And the Old Nixon, like the New, had perhaps the most intuitive feel for public moods in contemporary politics. With uncanny, tactile accuracy, he always could anticipate those vast, underground and mysterious shifts in popular attitudes that sometimes begin as glaciers and end as earthquakes.

For one illustration, the Old Nixon as a freshman Congressman out on minor campaign chores for the Republican party told this columnist that not its nominee, Thomas E. Dewey, but rather President Harry S. Truman was going to win in 1948. This was in September, when every poll was saying precisely the reverse. Nixon has smelled a wind of change before it was vaguely discerned by any other politician; indeed, before it had begun to blow.

But the Old Nixon, who understood the movement of issues among men and women, had no equivalent perception of men and women themselves. The difference is that the New Nixon has added this dimension of savvy to an otherwise extraordinary political expertise.

There was a time when he could define a political problem in a second, could estimate coming popular reaction to it in an hour, but could not in a week grasp the infinitely com-

plex humanity that lay behind it all. He was, in fact, a computer of a politician, immensely capable with the mechanics of it all but prone to the error of assuming that the logic of his data would inevitably assure the logic of his conclusions.

He understood the science of politics but not the art of human management that is its reason for being.

This myopia led him in the '40s into a politics of excessive belligerence and of excessive denunciations of adversaries which, while overstated by his enemies, was far graver than his friends would acknowledge.

There was a time, to be plain about it, when he was a bad fellow; bitterly and unacceptably partisan even by the most relaxed rules of the game. He was thus twice lonely, first because he is at heart a loner anyhow—stiff, shy, too-buttoned-off for comfort—and, second, because in consequence of his trespass he was sent to Coventry by many of his fellow politicians.

Thus he staggered doggedly from catastrophe to catastrophe, exceptionally gifted and yet exceptionally haunted. He barely saved himself from expulsion from second place on the Eisenhower ticket of 1952 for accepting private financial support from businessmen backers. The practice was far from uncommon, but many weighed Nixon in uncommonly uncharitable scales.

He met a narrow but punished defeat for the Presidency in 1960. Then came the crushing blow of his rejection even for Governor of California in 1962.

The only way to put it is to say that after this ultimate humiliation he reordered his life. He moved from California to New York and became a richly rewarded Wall Street Lawyer. His new affluence and his new success among the rich, to whom he had always been the outsider, fundamentally altered him. He learned what he had never known before: how to relax, how not to press too hard.

For years he suffered a glandular hostility from an Eastern-based and largely self-nominated "elite" whose animus was so violent as to be inexplicable in rational terms but nonetheless real. To be sure, he had done some things at some times to earn some part of this curious enmity, but it persisted long after he had by any disinterested measure redeemed his sins by able service for eight years as Vice-President and by a highly responsible course of conduct over the years since.

Thus his emergence here from the very tomb of political oblivion is sweet to him for more than the ordinary reasons. Demonstrably, he has at last reduced to rational and thus manageable scope the old hostility toward him.

Demonstrably, he has vindicated his long struggle back upward—and the old legend that one never gives up. Demonstrably, he has beaten the Eastern elite, with all its fantastic wealth-power in Nelson Rockefeller. Demonstrably, he has reclaimed if not a career—for only November can answer that—at least the reputation of an able, once-troubled and now poised and even happy political pro.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

AE943

XMZV241 AB864 NSB594

NS JZA419 PDF JACKSON MISS 8 719P CDT

CONGRESSMAN GEORGE BUSH

TEXAS DELEGATION CONVENTION HALL MIAM BEACH FLO

I THROW MY SUPPORT TO GEORGE WALLACE SINCE REPUBLICANS DID

NOT SELECT YOU AS VICE PRESIDENT NOMINEE

SONNY MONTGOMERY (733).

*File
Ans by inset*



TOM KLEPPE

Member of Congress

2ND DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

*Thought this might be
of interest to you...*

RICHARD M. NIXON
P. O. BOX 1968
TIMES SQUARE STATION
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036

July 26, 1968

RECEIVED
JUL 27 1968

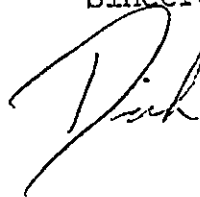
Dear Tom:

I want you to know how much I appreciated your taking the time to write.

You may be sure that the selection of a Vice President is one I view with great seriousness having known the responsibilities and the opportunities firsthand. For this reason, I am doubly grateful for your hearty endorsement of George Bush. I share your high respect for him and, without putting the cart before the horse, I will certainly be giving his qualifications every consideration as we go down the road to Miami and a Republican victory in November.

With my thanks and warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,



The Honorable Tom Kleppe
House of Representatives
Longworth Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

500 EQUITABLE BUILDING
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

August 13, 1968

407 5 1968

The Honorable George H. W. Bush
1608 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear George:

Just a note to let you know that you came across well and forcefully in your TV interviews at the convention, quite impressively to many people here in Colorado, not to mention my mother down in Texas who swoons at the mention of her favorite politician.

As much political wisdom as there may be in Mr. Nixon's nomination, I must confess to a certain old warhorse feeling about his candidacy. Flattery aside, you can convey more vigor, energy and enthusiasm in a few minutes than Nixon is likely to engender during the campaign. One term in the House is a very short time, but I wish you had been in a position to take the scepter this time. There has been an encouraging amount of rumor about your Presidential standing, in the Wall Street Journal and elsewhere, and I hope you're busy a-building for the next round in the game.

I still, of course, feel greatly indebted to you for your help in the past, and if I can be of any help to you here in Colorado, please don't hesitate to call.

And come climb a mountain if the spirit moves you. I'm sure I could still use another good Sunday School lesson if you've got the time!

Very truly yours,

Bob Connerly

RTC/ms

Re: Ltr. of thanks for good mention

August 20, 1968

Dear Bob:

What a thoughtful note.

We did have a little somewhat abortive run for the vice-presidency. When I saw Nixon in San Diego last week he confirmed that he gave it very serious consideration, but decided against it because of my short service in the House. I hope the ticket does well and I feel that Agnew, off to a shaky start, has only one way to go and that's up. I will say that in visiting with him in person he comes across a lot better than the public image to date. I think we have to keep in focus that the race is going to be between Humphrey and Nixon, and I can't see the American people turning to Humphrey right now - though maybe this is wishful thinking.

I do hope our paths cross soon. I have found my service in the House frustrating but tremendously interesting and if I had to do it all over again I'd take the same course of action I have taken to date. Call me if you ever get near Houston or Washington. I really did appreciate your wonderful letter.

Yours very truly,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. Bob Connery
500 Equitable Building
Denver, Colorado 80202

GB/ld

July 15, 1968

ENVELOPE MARKED "PERSONAL"

Dear Bill,

Jim Allison told me that you had written a sensational letter to Dick Nixon on my behalf. There is no way I can properly express my gratitude.

This is bound to be the longest shot in the world, but nevertheless a boost such as yours means a tremendous amount to me personally. Thank you very, very much.

I look forward to seeing you in Miami.

Best regards,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. William Murfin
325 6th St., S.E.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Bc: Mr. James N. Allison, Jr.

CONGRESSIONAL RATINGS

90th Congress - 1st Session

	ACA	ADA
BUSH	83	7
Ford	85	13
Arends	93	13
Laird	85	7
Rhodes (Ariz.)	88	7
Reid (NY)	24	80
Kupferman (NY)	18	67
Price (Texas)	97	0
Tower	92	8
Average - all GOP makes Honest Rep -	 	

FLETCHER THOMPSON
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

RICHARD ASHWORTH
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

1841 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

5TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA
327 OLD POST OFFICE, ATLANTA 30303

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

July 31, 1968

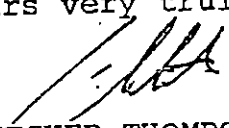
The Honorable Richard Nixon
P.O. Box 1968
Times Square Station
New York, New York 10036

Dear Dick:

In response to your letter of the 26th, I would like for you to consider as a running mate George Bush, the Congressman from Texas, for a number of reasons.

1. George, while he has a New England background, is a Texan of the last 20 years and is considered as a national rather than a local personality.
2. George is young and has the appearance and vigor of youth. This I feel is important.
3. George is able to articulate his position clearly and makes a tremendous impression through the television media.
4. George has been a very capable and competent Congressman, using sound logic and judgment and his voting record is one that people throughout the entire nation could support.
5. He's a darn good paddle ball player.

Yours very truly,


FLETCHER THOMPSON
Member of Congress

FT/m

HOLLOWAY & HUNT

ATTORNEYS

3430 REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK TOWER

DALLAS, TEXAS 75201

RIVERSIDE 2-4538

June 13, 1968

Richard M. Nixon, Esq.
Nixon, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie, Alexander & Mitchell
20 Broad Street
New York, New York 10005

Dear Mr. Nixon:

On November 10, 1964, I wrote to you expressing my appreciation for the public statement you made the day or so after the election regarding Governor Rockefeller and also stating, inter alia, the following:

"I hope your personal concept of your responsibility will require you to accept, or if necessary seek, the commission of restoring unity to our Party."

Having had my hopes for your acceptance of such commission fulfilled, I am emboldened thereby to express another fervent hope, which is that you will choose George Bush as your running mate.

I think George Bush would make an ideal Vice Presidential candidate for the following reasons:

- (1) He has youth, good looks, poise and personal charm equal to any Kennedy;
- (2) He projects extremely well on TV as forceful, dynamic, energetic, articulate and intelligent;
- (3) He is in fact highly intelligent, and has both adroit political balance and sound judgment;
- (4) His voting record, general political philosophy, and his qualities of political "glamour" are such that he should be attractive to the minority groups, the young people, the "intellectuals", to all moderates and to most conservatives except the real extremists;

BS
Thank him
Great seeing
at Corpus
will keep him
advised
4. lowest order

RECEIVED
JUL 15 1968

1
2
3

Richard M. Nixon, Esq.

Page 2

June 13, 1968

(5) Since he will control no block of delegates at the Convention, the choice of Bush would have the added advantage that it would not possibly be subject to the taint, which must be avoided, that you made any kind of a "deal" to help you obtain the nomination;

(6) He is universally popular in an important electoral state where, in losing the Senate race in 1964 to Ralph Yarborough, he nevertheless polled more Republican votes than any Republican candidate in Texas ever, including President Eisenhower; and

(7) His origin and family reputation in the East should be an asset there.

Instead of taking the time to dictate a necessarily noncommittal reply to this letter, I would much prefer that you devote at least "equal time" to a judicious contemplation of the merits of my case.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat S. Holloway

rd

VICE PRESIDENTIAL FILE -
Pat S. Holloway - as

June 18, 1968

Dear Pat,

Thanks for sending me a copy of
that highly complimentary letter
you sent Dick Nixon. Will keep
you advised of any significant
developments.

It was great seeing you in Corpus.
Love to Linda.

Best regards,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. Pat S. Holloway
Holloway & Hunt
3430 Republic Nat'l Bank Tower
Dallas, Texas 75201

DRESSER INDUSTRIES, INC.

REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

DALLAS, TEXAS

H. N. MALLON
CHAIRMAN OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 9, 1968

Mr. George Champlon,
Chairman of the Board
Chase Manhattan Bank
New York, New York

My Dear Mr. Champlon:

Although I have been a staunch supporter of Richard Nixon, I do not know him personally. So I am taking the liberty of sending you and Al Cole a suggestion to place before him which would insure a Republican victory next November. I hope you agree. It is this:

"Mr. Nixon, your Vice-Presidential running mate should appeal to the youth of the country. The young people today are asking, nay demanding to be heard in education, social problems, world affairs, and most assuredly in national politics. Those under 35 account for around 25% or more of the electorate, large enough to swing a national election in 1968.

Please take a long hard look at George Bush, a Republican Congressman from Houston as your Vice-Presidential running mate. He is a young man of terrific charm, great intelligence, superb tact, and a fine war record. And my what a television personality. Billy Graham is reported to have said that George Bush is the best on TV he has ever seen. He wows the youth of the country and the women as well. What an engaging, effective, powerful speaker!

COPY

April 8, 1968

Page two

In his initial attempt at public office he polled more votes in Texas than any Republican before or since. He would almost guarantee for you Texas, L. B. J.'s home state, in the Republican column in November. Elsewhere in the country, south as well as north, west as well as east, he would make a great impression and add to the Republican ticket and to your candidacy a quality and dignity and terrific energy, which an older politician and less dynamic leader would lack.

I say without hesitation there is no one in the country who would so charm the younger segment, who would persuade more voters under 35, who would bring a fresh new and successful look to the staid old Republic Party (GOP) than George Bush. He would take away from Bobby Kennedy, that insidious hypocrite, the young peoples' votes, the women's votes and the votes of many of the men, which Kennedy thinks he has in the bag."

I believe you have met George Bush. That inevitably means that you like him and respect him. Will you see that Mr. Nixon looks him over?

Sincerely yours,

ENM:dj

Per. Mallon

April 23, 1968

Dear Neil,

I wish we'd had longer to visit at the Jim Collins meeting.

David Grimes' address is:

Brentwood Financial Corp.
12011 San Vicente Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90049

You might mention this to Governor Shivers and to Mrs. Clive Runnells, 72 West Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60603.

One of the things I would call to George Champion's attention is the fact that I voted for the Civil Rights Bill. This has been unpopular in Houston, but it might make for more acceptability on a broader scale.

Hastily, but with best regards,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. H. N. Mallon
Dresser Industries, Inc.
Republic Nat'l Bank Bldg.
Dallas, Texas 75221

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

DRESSER

DRESSER INDUSTRIES, INC., REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, DALLAS, TEXAS 75221

H. N. MALLON

April 10, 1968

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
214/748-6411

RECEIVED

APR 12 1968

The Honorable George Bush
The House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

*Hand note
4-12-68
BB*

My dear George,

Please don't get embarrassed, but help me further this program.

I wrote this letter to George Champion and Alfred Cole. I now intend to write or call a dozen or more friends of mine and of yours suggesting that they write direct to Dick Nixon or to his close advisors so that the suggestion will come from many parts of the country.

What I need from you when I see you at the Jim Collins luncheon next Wednesday is a list of your friends around the country who might be receptive to the idea and welcome a letter or call from me. All of course without your knowledge or consent.

Don't resist, just hand me a list when we meet and nothing further need be discussed.

Yours,

Neil

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

RECEIVED

JUL 31 1968

RICHARD M. NIXON
P. O. BOX 1968
TIMES SQUARE STATION
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

July 19, 1968

*George - Richard
is thinking about
you!
best
John R.*

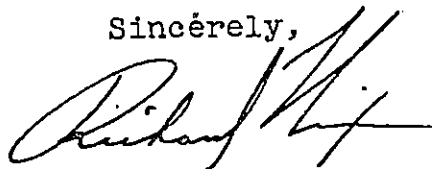
Dear Mr. Richdale:

I want you to know how much
I appreciated your taking the time to
write.

You may be sure that the
selection of a Vice President is one I
view with great seriousness having known
the responsibilities and the opportunities
firsthand. For this reason, I am doubly
grateful for your hearty endorsement of
George Bush. I share your high respect for
him and, without putting the cart before the
horse, I will certainly be giving his
qualifications every consideration as we go
down the road to Miami and a Republican
victory in November.

With my thanks and best wishes,

Sincerely,



Mr. James C. Richdale, Jr.
Corinthian Broadcasting Corporation
110 West 51st Street
Rockefeller Center
New York, New York 10020

119 - 119
Mr. Roper has
from Bush letter

SENT COPIES OF LETTER TO MR. RICHARD NIXON, JULY 16, 1968, TO:

Gene W. Harri
- Paul Harriman ✓

✓ Mr. George M. Champion
Chairman of the Board
The Chase Manhattan Bank
1 Chase Manhattan Plaza
New York, N.Y.

Mr. G. Keith Funston,
Chairman of the Board
Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp.
460 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Mr. Donald B. Lourie,
Chairman
The Quaker Oats Co.
Merchandise Mart Plaza
Chicago, Illinois

✓ Mr. George H. Love,
Chairman
Consolidation Coal Co. Inc.
2000 Koppers Bldg.
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Admiral Lewis L. Strauss
Room 500
1250 Connecticut Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

✓ Mr. John Clifford Folger
Chairman of the Board
Folger, Nolan, Fleming & Co., Inc.
725 - 15th St., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

✓ General Alfred M. Gruenther
4101 Cathedral Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Daniel C. Searle,
President
G. D. Searle & Company
P.O. Box 5110
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. A. Thomas Taylor,
Chairman and President
International Packers, Ltd.
401 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Walter M. Ringer,
Chairman
Foley Manufacturing Co.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Mr. Theodore R. Gamble,
President
Pet, Inc.
1401 Arcade Bldg.
St. Louis, Missouri

✓ Mr. Spencer T. Olin
7701 Forsyth Blvd.
St. Louis, Missouri

✓ Mr. John E. Bierwirth,
Chairman of the Board
National Distillers & Chemical Corp
99 80 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y.

✓ Mr. Henry C. Brunie,
Consultant
Bank fo New York
7 West 51st Street
New York, N.Y.

✓ Mr. David R. Cudlip
Executive Vice President
Overseas National Airways
Jamaica, Long Island, New York

✓ Mr. Horace C. Flanigan,
Consultant
Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.
350 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Mr. Walter Hoving,
Chairman of the Board
Tiffany & Company
2 East 57th Street
New York, N.Y.

✓ Mr. R. L. Ireland III
Partner
Brown Bros. Harriman & Co.
59 Wall Street
New York, N.Y.

✓ Mr. David L. Luke III
Chairman
West Virginia Pulp & Paper Co.
299 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y.

✓ Mr. George S. Moore,
Chairman of the Board
First National City Bank of N.Y.
55 Wall Street
New York, N.Y. 10005

Mr. Clifford Roberts,
Partner
Reynolds & Co.
120 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

Mr. David Schiff,
Partner
Kuhn Loeb & Co.
40 Wall Street
New York, N.Y. 10005

Mr. Robert T. Stevens,
President
J. P. Stevens & Co., Inc.
1460 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

✓ Mr. P. Huber Hanes, Jr.
President
Member Executive Committee
Hanes Corp.
Winston-Salem, N. C.

Mr. Courtney Burton,
Chairman
Oglebay Norton Co.
1200 Hanna Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio

Mr. John C. Virden
Chairman of the Executive Comm.
Eaton Yale & Towne, Inc.
100 Erieview Plaza
Cleveland, Ohio

Mr. Fred C. Foy,
Chairman
Koppers Co., Inc.
Koppers Bldg.
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Mr. Gwilym A. Price
University of Pittsburgh
603 Bruce Hall
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

✓ Mr. William Liedtke
Pennzoil United, Inc.
900 Southwest Tower
Houston, Texas

✓ Mr. Maurice H. Stans
President
Glore Forgan & Co.
45 Wall Street
New York, N.Y.

✓ Mr. Peter Flanigan,
Vice PRESIDENT
Dillon Read & Co.
46 William Street
New York, N.Y.

✓ Mr. Henry T. Rutledge,
President
Northwest Bancorporation
1215 N. W. Bank Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55440

✓ Mr. G. H. Walker, JR.
G. H. Walker & Co.
45 Wall Street
New York, N.Y. 10005

Mr. Alfred Langben
Boyd, Weir & Sewell
17 Battery Place
New York, N.Y. 10004

Mr. Bank Ravis
39th Floor
One Chase Manhattan Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10015

vms/GB FARISH, MR. W. S. III

July 31, 1968

NIXON: VICE-PRESIDENCY GB

Dear Will:

Thanks for sending me the copy of your note to Richard Nixon.

I am convinced that the VP thing regarding me is dead, but I am most excited about the way Nixon is shaping up.

See you after the Convention. I will be back in Houston for a couple of weeks.

Best regards,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. W. S. Farish III
Houston Club Building
Houston, Texas

July 29, 1968

Mr. Richard M. Nixon
c/o Rosemary Wood
450 Park Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Nixon:

Because I have been traveling extensively this summer, I have missed much of your pre-convention campaigning; but I was fortunate enough to see your nation wide half-hour question and answer program this past Thursday, and was tremendously impressed. I believe your approach to the ghetto problems, in my belief eventually the most critical and delicate issue of the forthcoming campaign, will produce many votes in the months to come.

I had the great pleasure of meeting you with my Grandfather, General Robert E. Wood a number of years ago, and again with my close friend, George Bush during his Senatorial and Congressional campaigns. Needless to say, I am extremely excited about the outside possibility of George being selected to run on a Republican Ticket with you. He is one of the most outstanding persons I have ever known, and I believe he would be a great asset.

Please find enclosed a check which I plan to increase substantially after the nomination, and accept my best wishes for success in Miami.

Sincerely yours,

W. S. Parish, III

WSF/ss

Copy: Mr. George Bush

William C. Liedtke, Jr.
900 Southwest Tower Building
Houston, Texas 77002

August 1, 1968

File

Mr. Richard M. Nixon
P. O. Box 1515
Grand Central Station
New York, New York 10017

Dear Dick:

I think it is quite logical to assume that you would prefer a qualified candidate from one of the larger states or pivotal areas. For this reason, I would like to answer your questions by commenting on several of the candidates.

Question No. 1

I think Bush of Texas, Reagan of California, Lindsay or Rockefeller of New York, and Percy of Illinois, are all well qualified. I have difficulty thinking of appealing candidates from other key states such as Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, etc. Of the five listed above, Rockefeller obviously has the most experience but I think the other four are intelligent enough to surround themselves with able, experienced people if called upon to do the job. With this in mind, (that is, that all possible candidates mentioned are well qualified) other considerations become paramount. One of these, as you suggest, is who would be the most effective campaigner.

Question No. 2

All five could be effective campaigners, although I have reservations about Percy's effectiveness. To me, he does not come across too strongly. Of course, Rockefeller, in the past, has only been an effective campaigner for Rockefeller.

August 1, 1968

My limited knowledge of Lindsay indicates that he could be quite effective. Reagan is a most attractive candidate in person and on TV.

Bush, given sufficient exposure, could be the most effective. He is youthful, vigorous, humorous, attractive, and would work at the campaign with all the energy he possesses. In addition, his judgement is mature and he radiates sincerity.

Question No. 3

I personally doubt if Lindsay would help you outside the limited area in the East, and I frankly question how much he will contribute to winning New York State.

With Rockefeller, you might carry New York State and possibly another state or two in the East, but he could be a liability in other areas.

Percy has a limited appeal, in my opinion, and would only be helpful in and around Illinois.

Reagan would be helpful in California and possibly other western areas, and in the South. He could hurt you in the East although I doubt it, as I think his personality would overcome his Press during the campaign.

Bush would, of course, be helpful in Texas, but in my opinion, he might give you an assist nationally because he would be an attractive new face and a new personality might prove to be of interest to the public. As a Republican, his being from Texas should not hurt as he is certainly no part of the old group. His New England background, his excellent

Page Three

August 1, 1968

educational record (Phi Beta Kappa - Economics in three years at Yale) would be appealing. His war record in World War II -- shot down as a very young Navy pilot in the Pacific -- and his successful business career could possibly give the ticket the type of person who would appeal to the younger generation. Another way of looking at it is anyone who could come from New England to Texas and be elected to Congress from the largest city in the state, must have appeal. I think he could reverse the process and go North and East and have appeal.

Let me add one final important ingredient. Who would be the best member of the team -- most loyal to the cause? I think Bush would excel as he is nearest you philosophically. As your vice president, you could thrust great responsibility on him with the confidence that the job would be done in a manner in accord with your wishes.

Finally, I think the presidential-candidates have by far the greatest effect on the voter, and thus, the most important consideration should be that the qualified vice presidential candidate be not only an effective campaigner, but a loyal and dedicated partner in the effort. This, Bush would be.

Sincerely,

Bill

William C. Liedtke, Jr.

WCLjr:bw

ED156P 8/8

(O'DONNELL)

FOR RELECTION, A CIRCUMSTANCE ALMOST UNHEARD OF FOR A SOUTHERN REPUBLICAN.
BUSH IS A FRESHMAN MEMBER OF THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE AND IS UNOPPOSED
DURING THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL GIVE AND TAKE.

O'DONNELL SAID THAT BUSH'S LACK OF GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE WAS A FACTOR MENTIONED
"THIS IS A LESSON IN THE MATURING PROCESS," HE CONTINUED AT ONE POINT.

SWAN WITH HIS WIFE AND FRIENDS IN THE POOL HERE.

DURING THE TENSE MOMENTS WHILE NIXON'S FINAL DECISION WAS BEING MADE, BUSH

HIMSELF.

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS GERALD FORD AND ROBERT WILSON, SEN. JOHN TOWER AND O'DONNELL

BUSH'S NAME WAS BROUGHT UP BY A NUMBER OF PEOPLE, O'DONNELL SAID, INCLUDING

MEETING AS A POTENTIAL RUNNING MATE.

O'DONNELL TOLD CBS NEWS THAT TEXAS REP. GEORGE BUSH WAS DISCUSSED DURING THE

THIS MORNING.

SAID O'DONNELL, WHO WAS A PARTICIPANT IN THE TWO-HOUR CLOSED MEETING AT THE HILTON

AGNEW IS KNOWN TO BE "VERY FRIENDLY," A GOOD EXECUTIVE AND AN AILE CAMPAIGNER."

SAID THAT RICHARD NIXON'S CHOICE OF MARYLAND GOV. AGNEW WAS A GOOD ONE.

BALTIMORE (CNB)--TEXAS REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN PETER O'DONNELL TODAY (THURSDAY)

TEXAS-APRIL

CND 125

SEP 1974

2 B 5 Stang
4:10 PM
Stang

W.P. Gice

Chamber of Commerce of the United States
1615 H Street, N.W. / Washington, D.C. 20006



Return Requested

Honore
1622 J
Washi

Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

Young Texas Congressman Bush Gets Nixon Look as Running Mate

Evangelist Billy Graham, a keen judge of political talent, recently transmitted to his friend Richard M. Nixon an unusual suggestion: Rep. George Bush of Texas for Vice President.

Bush, a 44-year-old transplanted New Englander who was elected as a Congressman from Houston in 1966, violates all the rules for picking running-mates. With less than two years' experience in elective office, he has neither a national reputation nor a bloc of delegates to offer Nixon.

Nevertheless, Billy Graham's suggestion was by no means the last Nixon heard of Bush. A quiet Bush-for-Vice-President campaign has developed in business and congressional circles. What's more, Nixon himself definitely is interested and is considering Bush as a possibility.

IF THIS LONG SHOT should come in, it would be Nixon's version of the new politics. Painfully aware of his lack of appeal among the under-35 age group, Nixon would be covering this flank by naming Bush — youthful, handsome, articulate instead of a more famous name. What makes Bush interesting to the Nixon camp is the possibility he has the same mugwump appeal to the middle-class independent voter exercised by Sen. Eugene McCarthy.

This possibility is based on Bush's television style, regarded by Dr. Graham as among the best of current practicing politicians. Nixon has been particularly impressed by spontaneous comments from newsmen covering his campaign that Bush was the sole redeeming feature of the otherwise dismal television spectacular by Republican Congressmen early this year.

Moreover, the Texas business establishment is beating the drums for Bush. In one New York meeting with



Evans Novak

contributors, Nixon received a Bush sales pitch from a Texas industrialist. Another Texas businessman has fired off appeals for Bush to key Nixon supporters (including board chairman George Champion of Chase Manhattan).

THE LATEST TALK about Bush heard by Nixon came last weekend in Atlanta from Rep. Fletcher Thompson of Georgia, a freshman Congressman elected with Bush.

Informing Nixon of wide interest in a Nixon-Bush ticket by younger Republican Congressmen, Thompson told Nixon that the combination's appeal would cross sectional lines. Nixon, a Californian now living in New York, would be coupled with a Massachusetts-born Texan whose father, former Sen. Prescott Bush of Connecticut, has valid credentials in the Eastern establishment.

Nixon was interested. However, it is known he has two serious reservations about Bush—first, his lack of experience in public office, and second, the possibility of offending Sen. John Tower, the top Texas Republican and favorite-son candidate for President. Tower, whose relations with Bush are less than intimate, has done yes-man work for Nixon keeping

the big Texas delegation away from Gov. Ronald Reagan of California.

However, to Nixon advisers who feel he needs a bona fide liberal as running mate, Bush's more serious liability is his conservative voting record (79 per cent according to the Americans for Constitutional Action). Yet, that is not particularly high for a Texas Republican and does not truly reflect Bush's left-of-center image in Houston.

IN DEFEATING a right-wing Democrat in 1966, oilman Bush outraged the far right by openly courting Negroes. His recent vote for the open housing civil rights bill (while the State's other two Republicans in Congress, Tower and Rep. Robert Price, were voting against it) has excited furious protest among his constituents.

Actually, Bush makes sense only in the context of Nixon's widening lead for the nomination. If he does not have to barter away the Vice Presidency to be nominated as now seems likely, Nixon can select the man who would best reinforce his weak spots: minority groups, the young, the industrial Northeast.

By conventional standards, the man best fitting that description is Sen. Charles H. Percy of Illinois, who is so regarded by Nixon aides. Yet, there is an undercurrent of misgivings inside the Nixon camp that Percy might not have the appeal to help Nixon all that much. In this strange year of political surprises, then, there is at least a chance, long shot though it is, that George Bush is the one.

© 1968, Publishers-Hall Syndicate

Three Texas contenders

When Lyndon Johnson leaves the presidency next January, for the first time in several decades Texas may be without the services of a native son in a top federal position. Mr. Johnson served as vice-president and Senate majority leader before he became the chief executive. Sam Rayburn served for years as speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. John Nance Garner was House speaker and then vice-president.

But Texas is not without impressive leaders who are capable of serving the nation in high office as President Johnson, Rayburn and Garner have done during more than three decades.

Indeed, three Texans are being considered as possible vice-presidential nominees. The most serious contender, we judge, is Gov. John Connally, who will go to the National Democratic Convention as a favorite-son candidate armed with Texas' 104 convention votes—"until such time as the commitment is released by a personal announcement to such effect" by the governor.

Connally is one of the nation's most successful governors. He is a former secretary of the Navy under President Kennedy; he is a close friend of President Johnson; and his name is known and respected throughout the world.

The only thing that clouds his vice-presidential prospects is the fact that Vice-President Humphrey, the likely Democratic presidential nominee, is running as an administration candidate. Connally is known to be a close adviser to the President. Humphrey and Connally on the same ticket might be too heavily oriented toward the present administration at a time when millions of Democratic backers of Sen. Eugene McCarthy and the late Sen. Robert Kennedy are calling for a new approach.

On the Republican side, Sen. John Tower will go to the GOP national con-

vention with 56 Texas delegates bound to support him as a favorite-son presidential candidate.

If by some political miracle Gov. Nelson Rockefeller should be nominated for president, Tower would be ideal for the No. 2 spot—both from a geographic and an ideological position. If Richard Nixon is the candidate, Tower's vice-presidential prospects will be diminished, because Nixon, generally conservative in outlook, might want a more liberal Republican as a running mate—say, someone like Sen. Charles Percy of Illinois.

Gov. Ronald Reagan of California, a conservative like Tower and a long-shot presidential contender, has overshadowed Tower to some degree. Yet Reagan has far more opposition from moderate Republicans than does Tower.

Tower, the first Republican Texas has sent to the Senate since 1870, disavows interest in the vice-presidential nomination as any good politician should. But he has a world of friends in the Republican Party, particularly in the conservative and Southern wing of the party. He has experience, political talent and intellect.

The third Texas vice-presidential possibility is Houston's own Republican Rep. George Bush, son of a U.S. senator from Connecticut, freshman congressman from Texas, articulate, vigorous and handsome. We frankly think such talk is premature. But the mere fact that Bush is being considered is a tribute to his ability and a sign of things to come.

Bush has done extremely well during his first two years in Congress. So well, in fact, that no one in his West Harris County district challenged him for reelection. His fame is spreading. He looks like a movie idol. He communicates well with the young, the elderly, and the minority groups. And at 44, he has a long career ahead of him.

RICHARD M. NIXON
P. O. BOX 1968
TIMES SQUARE STATION
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

JUL 28 1968

July 26, 1968

Dear George:

Should I receive the nomination at the convention, the first and probably the most important political decision I will make during the course of the campaign is the selection of my running mate.

I am writing this letter to you and a few other close friends and political leaders to get the benefit of your advice on this decision. I would like you to consider all the men who have been mentioned as possible candidates. Please take into consideration the three questions which I believe are fundamental in reaching this decision:

1. Which man do you consider to be best qualified to be President?
2. Which man do you believe would be the best campaigner for the national ticket?
3. Which man do you believe would add the greatest strength to the ticket in the major marginal states we have to carry in November?

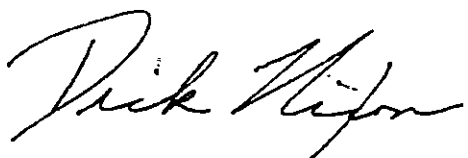
I realize that in most instances you may well come up with the same name in answering each question. If that is not the case, however, I would appreciate it if you would so indicate.

You may send in your reply anonymously if you prefer. In any event, all replies are for my information alone and will be kept in confidence. I would appreciate hearing from you before August 5.

I want you to know how much I appreciate the support you have given my candidacy and the counsel you will provide to me on this critical decision.

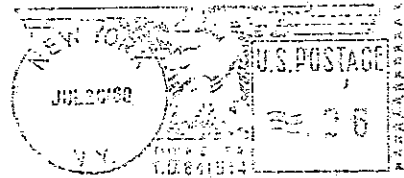
With best wishes,

Sincerely,



The Honorable George Bush
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

P.S. I have taken a special post office box for these answers - please reply to: P. O. Box 1515, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10017. R.M.N:



The Honorable George Bush
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

RICHARD M. NIXON
P. O. BOX 1968
TIMES SQUARE STATION
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

RECEIVED.

General Alfred M. Gruenther
Cathedral Apartments
4101 Cathedral Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20016

JUL 27 1968

July 24, 1968

Dear Mr Kleppe -

Your letter about George Bush
was awaiting me when I returned
late last night from a business
trip to California.

Yes indeed! I shall write to
I had

Mr. Nixon about George.
(and still have) a high regard for George's
dad and the same feeling goes for George.
In fact George and I are members of
the Abbi Club in Washington (about
50 members) and we see each other
occasionally at Friday luncheons. I
hope I shall see him there tomorrow.

I have also written to
George's uncle today in response to his letter.
Thank you for writing me

Sincerely
Alfred M. Gruenther

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

N

NIXON FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE,
P. O. BOX 1968, TIMES SQUARE STATION,
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036
PHONE (212) 661-6400 .

JUL 27 1968

July 23, 1968

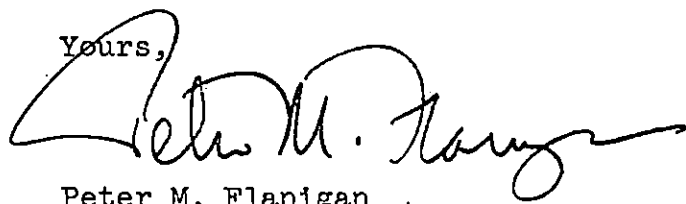
Hon. Tom Kleppe
House of Representatives
Longworth Office Building
Room 1521
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kleppe:

Many thanks for your note of July 19. As
Deputy Campaign Manager for the Nixon campaign, I obviously
am well aware of George Bush's qualifications. In addition,
he and I went to grammar school together and I have known
him and his wife, Barbara, all my life. I agree he is a
wonderful person.

With warm regards,

Yours,



Peter M. Flanigan
Deputy Campaign Manager



TOM KLEPPE

Member of Congress

2ND DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

*Thought this might be
of interest to you...*

Tom

BRISTOL-MYERS COMPANY

630 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 20

JUL 25 1968

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 23, 1968

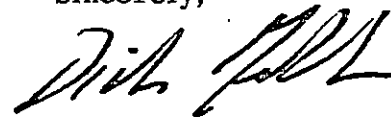
Honorable Tom Kleppe
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Kleppe:

George Bush is a good friend of mine and I believe he is one of the most outstanding young men in our Party. Your suggestion is most interesting and I thank you for writing to me.

My best,

Sincerely,



RICHARD L. GELB

RLG/f

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

XERO
COPY

XERO
COPY

XERO
COPY

XERO
COPY

JUL 26

OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS

July 23, 1968

Congressman Tom Kleppe
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kleppe:

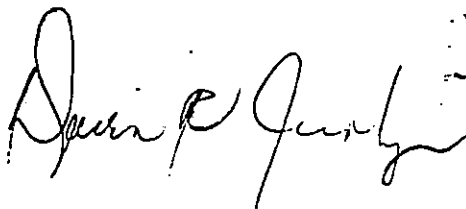
Thank you very much for your letter of July 19th concerning the qualifications of George Bush as the nominee for Vice President of the Republican Party this year. It has been my pleasure to know George's family for a number of years, and while I think I am more closely acquainted with his brothers, I share your enthusiasm for George's outstanding personal qualifications.

I would be glad to talk to Dick Nixon about this and I think that there are others in New York who wish to do so also. As a matter of information, the only possible yet vague objection that I have ever heard is the fact that George Bush is a relative newcomer to elected politics. I personally do not think that this is a drawback but the question has nevertheless been raised.

Should I hear anything of particular importance with respect to this question, I would be glad to pass it on to you. Meanwhile I will do all that I appropriately can to pursue this suggestion.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,



WILLIAM O. COWGER
30 DISTRICT, KENTUCKY
(LOUISVILLE)

LEWIS C. TINGLEY
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

GLENN P. SWINDLER
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT

25
Congress of the United States

1237 Longworth House Office Building **House of Representatives**
Washington, D. C. 20515
Washington, D.C. 20515
July 24, 1968

Honorable Richard M. Nixon
20 Broad Street
New York, New York 10004

Dear Dick:

Recently the radio, television and newspaper reporters have speculated as to your choice as a running mate for Vice President. The name of Congressman George Bush has been mentioned rather prominently. I sincerely hope that you will give this suggestion every consideration.

George Bush has, in my opinion, all of the qualifications for national leadership. His business and political connections range across the country. In a short span of time he has made his influence known here in Washington. I know of no one who does not respect his intelligence and his approach to the problems facing our nation.

I appreciate your accepting this letter in the friendly, yet sincere, manner intended.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM O. COWGER

WOC:lo

TOM KLEPPE
2ND DISTRICT, NORTH DAKOTA

ROOM 1521
LONGWORTH OFFICE BUILDING
TEL: (202) 225-5786

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEE:
AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
LIVESTOCK AND GRAINS
(INCLUDING WHEAT)
RESEARCH AND EXTENSION
DEPARTMENTAL OVERSIGHT

July 23, 1968

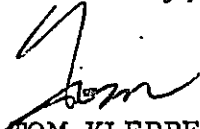
The Honorable George Bush
Member of Congress
1608 Longworth H. O. B.

Dear George:

I thought you would like copies of two enclosed letters which I received today. I hope to receive more and I will keep you posted.

After looking at the list of potentials for Nixon and seeing your name omitted, it is quite obvious to note that your campaign manager has done a lousy job. Let's hope we have some hidden recognition waiting for us some place.

Sincerely,



TOM KLEPPE
Member of Congress

TK/lc
Encs. 2

G. H. WALKER & CO.

MEMBERS
NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

45 WALL STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10005

TELEPHONE
422-4000
CABLE "WALKERIAN"
TELEX 620355

ST. LOUIS
PROVIDENCE
HARTFORD
WATERBURY
BRIDGEPORT
WHITE PLAINS
SPRINGFIELD
PHILADELPHIA
CHICAGO
KANSAS CITY
BOSTON
OMAHA
CLAYTON

July 22, 1968.

Honorable Tom Kleppe, M. C.,
Longworth Office Building, Room 1521,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Kleppe:

Thank you for your letter of July 19th received
this morning.

I have today written Mr. Nixon in accordance
with your suggestion. I doubt if my letter will do
much good coming from a biased member of the family
but of course I am delighted to do anything that I
possibly can to further this effort.

I still remember our very pleasant evening
together at the Alibi Club, and I personally am
very grateful for all your efforts in George's
behalf.

With all best to you always,

Sincerely yours,

Herbie Walker
G. H. Walker, Jr.

GHWJr:G
1 Enclosure

G. H. WALKER & CO.

INVESTMENT BANKERS
ESTABLISHED 1900

MEMBERS
NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

45 WALL STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10005

TELEPHONE
422-4000
CABLE "WALKERIAN"
TELEX 620355

ST. LOUIS
PROVIDENCE
HARTFORD
WATERBURY
BRIDGEPORT
WHITE PLAINS
SPRINGFIELD
PHILADELPHIA
CHICAGO
KANSAS CITY
BOSTON
OMAHA
CLAYTON

July 22, 1968.

The Honorable Richard M. Nixon,
20 Broad Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Nixon:

You don't remember me, I am sure, but my son and I played golf with you at Kennebunkport, Maine, many years ago, and we have said "hello" occasionally at The Recess. My sister is Dorothy Walker Bush (Pres Bush's wife), and the reason for this letter is to tell you how much I hope you pick George Bush as your running mate this year. All of us who are close to George and know him intimately are, of course, wildly prejudiced in his behalf. But there is good reason behind it. George is one of the greatest, most successful, and yet one of the humblest people that ever lived. I have seen him perform throughout his life - a born winner - yet with that wonderful common touch Kipling wrote about. Thoughtful, considerate, yet firm in his principles. Everyone says we need the accent on youth today and I agree - and here you have youth with mature judgment built in.

I fully realize what a difficult position you are in and how complex the choice may have to be. All I can say is that George Bush would generate terrific enthusiasm for your team by the rank and file of young people throughout the land. It would give perfect balance to your cause from the standpoint of age and geographical coverage, but more important than all else it would elevate into the high councils of our country one whose integrity, courage, sense of justice and fair play stands out as a shining light in the darkness of mistrust, hatred, and violence that surrounds us today.

Faithfully yours,

Herbie Walker

G. H. Walker, Jr.

GHWJr:G

GEORGE CHAMPION
1 CHASE MANHATTAN PLAZA
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10005

July 22, 1968

The Honorable Tom Kleppe
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Kleppe:

Thank you for your good letter of the 19th. I
have been one of George Bush's strong supporters
and admirers for a long time. Quite a while ago
I spoke to Dick Nixon about him.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

George Champion

House of Representatives, U.S.

MEMORANDUM RECEIVED

JUL 24 1958

The attached refers to a
subject in which you are in-
terested, and is, therefore,
referred for your information.

Yours very truly

A handwritten signature, likely of a high-ranking official, is written in dark ink. The signature is stylized and appears to be a first name followed by a last name, though the specific letters are not clearly legible due to the cursive style.

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

JUL 23 1968

RICHARD M. NIXON
P. O. BOX 1968
TIMES SQUARE STATION
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

July 22, 1968

Dear Bill:

It was good to hear from you with regard to your June 19th letter, and I regret that this response is so late.

You may be sure I am deeply grateful for your words of support. Having known the responsibilities and the opportunities of the Vice Presidency firsthand, I view the selection of a running mate with great seriousness. For this reason, I am doubly grateful for your hearty endorsement of George Bush. I share your high respect for him and, without putting the cart before the horse, I will certainly be giving his qualifications every consideration as we go down the road to Miami and a Republican victory in November.

Pat and I are looking forward to seeing Janie and you in Miami.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,



The Honorable William A. Steiger
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

*Xerox to
George Bush*

RICHARD M. NIXON

P. O. BOX 1968

TIMES SQUARE STATION.

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

RECEIVED

JUL 24 1968

July 19, 1968;

Four letters

Dear Mr. Grimes:

I want you to know how much
I appreciated your taking the time to
write.

You may be sure that the
selection of a Vice President is one I
view with great seriousness having known
the responsibilities and the opportunities
firsthand. For this reason, I am doubly
grateful for your hearty endorsement of
George Bush. I share your high respect for
him and, without putting the cart before the
horse, I will certainly be giving his
qualifications every consideration as we go
down the road to Miami and a Republican
victory in November.

With my thanks and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Mr. David C. Grimes
Chairman of the Board & President
Brentwood Savings & Loan Association
12001 San Vicente Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90049

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT
THIRD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

HOME ADDRESS:
HARRISON, ARKANSAS

WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
1640 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: 225-4301

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

July 19, 1968

COMMITTEES:
PUBLIC WORKS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
RIVERS AND HARBORS
FLOOD CONTROL
PUBLIC BUILDINGS
AND GROUNDS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
INSURANCE
HOSPITALS

RECEIVED

JUL 21 1968

For your information.

JPH

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

RICHARD M. NIXON
P. O. BOX 1968
TIMES SQUARE STATION
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

July 13, 1968

Dear John:

I want you to know how much I appreciated your taking the time to write.

You may be sure that the selection of a Vice President is one I view with great seriousness having known the responsibilities and the opportunities firsthand. For this reason, I am doubly grateful for your hearty endorsement of George Bush. I share your high respect for him and, without putting the cart before the horse, I will certainly be giving his qualifications every consideration as we go down the road to Miami and a Republican victory in November.

With my thanks and warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,



The Honorable John Paul Hammerschmidt
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

William C. Liedtke, Jr.
900 Southwest Tower Building
Houston, Texas 77002

RECEIVED
JUL 18 1968

Dear George:

Here is a copy of the letter Fred asked me to write. I forged Bill's name (with his permission) & mailed it to Mr. Nixon yesterday.

I would like to tell you sincerely, George, that your name is being mentioned in my prayers for this to become a reality.

Warm regards,

Daverly

P.S. The original letter to Nixon was on Bill's personal letterhead.

July 16, 1968

Dear Dick:

Soon you'll be in Miami and the decision of the vice presidential candidate will hopefully be yours to make.

As your finance chairman in Texas, I am committed, and will back you up in whatever you decide. However, as I was reading your speech "Toward an Expanded Democracy" wherein you mention what you want your Vice President to do and define your hopes for the independent sector under a decentralized government, I was struck with the fact that you were almost describing our Congressman, George Bush. I mentioned this to you in a group meeting once before, and you mentioned a possible problem with Senator Tower. It would seem to me Senator Tower's public statement removing himself as a vice presidential contender would solve this.

George Bush, in spite of his short service in the House, could help you win. He's young and yet he's had great success in building a successful business.

He's involved -- and always has been -- in the voluntary sector you talk about. He has introduced tax-credit legislation to get business involved. He's run his own job program as a congressman. He got 35% of the Negro vote in 1966.

Page Two

July 16, 1968

He got more votes in Texas in 1964 than any Republican in Texas history for any office before or since. This could bode well for Texas strength this year.

George has appeal to young people and can get them fired up. He's got plenty of energy.

Lastly, Dick, he's a loyal kind of guy and would support you to the hilt.

We need youth and enthusiasm on the ticket and, in my opinion, George can help win this election. I hope you don't mind this unsolicited advice. As I said, I'm with you no matter what you do.

Sincerely,

William C. Liedtke, Jr.

Mr. Richard M. Nixon
P. O. Box 1968
Times Square Station
New York, New York 10036

cc: Fred Chambers
cc: George Bush

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

RECEIVED

JUL 19 1968

July 15, 1968

Honorable Richard M. Nixon
450 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Nixon:

I am writing to ask that you consider Congressman George Bush as the vice presidential nominee on the Republican ticket for 1968. I believe George to be the individual with the most advantageous qualifications to serve as your running mate and as vice president of the United States.

I am sure that you are aware of his many desirable attributes. He is a former resident of Connecticut, where his father was a well-respected United States Senator. He now serves in Congress from the Southern State of Texas, where in his bid for re-election, he drew no Democratic opposition. Although he is definitely identified as a Southerner, he can in no way be labeled as a racist, as he is considered a moderate, indeed by some, a liberal in problems relating to the Negro situation. In addition, he is knowledgeable in the problems of the cities and serves on the Task Force on Urban Affairs. Last but not least, he is a vibrant articulate young man whose vote appeal could and would have a broad base in the young. He is an individual who could excite and enthuse the youth of this nation, an age group which the Republican Party needs to attract.

In closing, George Bush is one of the finest spokesmen for the Republican Party today. He is a statesman in the true sense of the word, an individual that makes me proud to be a Republican. I am sure that there are many other potential

Page Two

July 15, 1968

Honorable Richard M. Nixon

vice presidential candidates who have come to your attention who would be qualified and an asset to the Party and the nation. However, I would hope that you would give very careful consideration to George in view of the vital needs of our time.

Sincerely,

William Murfin
Chairman

WM:lw

✓ bcc: Jimmy Allison

July 8, 1968

Dear Bo,

I got your letter of July 2nd. Don't just sit there mouthing platitudinous statements. Get in there and write Nixon a fiery letter.

I would be glad to wade through the paper you gave at Michigan State University Business School but you didn't send it along. Fire your secretary and send me a copy.

Seriously, there has been some speculation on the V. P. matter. A long shot it is, but, if handled properly, it can't hurt in the home district.

Will you be at the Convention?

Warmest regards,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. Louis F. Polk, Jr.
General Mills, Inc.
9200 Wayzata Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55440

GENERAL MILLS, INC. • EXECUTIVE OFFICES • 9200 Wayzata Boulevard • Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440

LOUIS F. POLK, JR.
Vice President-Finance
International and Development

July 2, 1968

Congressman George H. W. Bush
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Poppy,

I'm going to write you one of these days but in the meantime, I'm pumping for Bush for Vice President as hard as I can. With your good looks and humor and my brains and ability as a lover to back you up, there would be no stopping you.

I am enclosing a talk that I delivered at the graduation dinner at the Michigan State University Business School. It states a personal philosophy that I have about business. You may be interested in wading through it.

I find that the Sears Roebuck catalogues no longer have the quality of paper they once had.

Regards,

Bo

LFPjr: gk

Enclosures

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT
THIRD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

HOME ADDRESS:
HARRISON, ARKANSAS

WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
1640 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: 225-4301

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEES:
PUBLIC WORKS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RIVERS AND HARBORS
FLOOD CONTROL
PUBLIC BUILDINGS
AND GROUNDS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
INSURANCE
HOSPITALS

July 3, 1968

RECEIVED

Honorable Richard Nixon
810 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Mr. Nixon:

I have received indications that Congressman George Bush of Texas is among those persons you believe particularly qualified for Vice President.

It is my pleasure to work very closely with George. He not only possesses a full measure of the basic precepts and ideological tenets of our party; he also has flexibility and adaptability so greatly needed in today's world.

I believe my colleagues would agree, and I speak from close personal acquaintance, that his voting record indicates George would be exceptionally attractive to a broad segment of the electorate.

George has a particularly potent asset of being able to relate to today's vigorous and dynamic youth structure.

Nixon-Bush would be a fine ticket.

With warm personal regards.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED) JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT
Member of Congress

JPH:cj

cc: Honorable George Bush

July 8, 1968

Dear Stanley,

Thanks for your thoughtful note of the 1st.

I announced today for Nixon. Should Rocky get the nomination, I will work my heart out for him in the Fall.

It was good seeing you in San Antonio and I'm sorry Barbara and I didn't make the Mallon wedding. Life is too hectic.

Best regards,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. Stanley Marcus
Neiman-Marcus Co.
Main at Ervay
Dallas, Texas

July 1, 1968

Dear George:

It was nice seeing you at the luncheon last Saturday in San Antonio for Governor Rockefeller. While I realize that you are committed at the present time to another candidate I do hope that you will give strong consideration to Rockefeller as the opinion polls cast doubts upon Nixon's ability to win.

With best regards,

Stanley
Stanley Marcus

Congressman George Bush
5000 Longmont, #8
Houston, Texas

on good paper

Dear Stanley,

*Thanks for your thoughtful
note of the 1st.*

*I answered today how Nixon
should Rocky get the nomination to will
work as heart out for him in the fall.
It was good seeing you in ~~San Antonio~~ San Antonio,
and I'm sorry ~~because~~ I didn't make the Mallon
wedding. Life is too weird, V.T.Y.*

CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY

30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10020

L. F. Mc COLLUM
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

July 5, 1968

RECEIVED

JUL 8 1968

The Honorable George Bush
House of Representatives
Longworth Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear George:

The other evening while I was having dinner with some gentlemen(?), George Champion was sponsoring you for the next Secretary of State under a Republican president. Not a bad billing, George.

Thanks for the article from the New York Times, which incidentally I had read.

Sincerely,



LFM-jb

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

Date 6-20-68

To Mr. George Bush

RECEIVED

from

L. F. McCOLLUM

JUN 21 1968

George:

This was an article that appeared in the Houston paper concerning you as related by Billy Graham. This was Dewey's reaction to the article.

"Mc"

LFM-jb
Enclosure

THOMAS E. DEWEY

JUN 19 1968

June 17, 1968

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. L. F. McCollum

It seems to me that the column is a pretty good start toward a brush fire. Of course no candidate can commit himself to one man until the last second for fear of alienating many others. Nevertheless it does no harm to give both advertising and a whole lot of thought to all possibilities.

T.E.D.

Nixon Considers Liberal Or a Moderate for Ticket

By ROBERT B. SEMPLE Jr.

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 29—It now appears virtually certain that if Richard M. Nixon wins the Republican Presidential nomination he will choose a moderate-to-liberal Republican as his running mate.

The former Vice President has cautiously avoided private commitments to any single man, according to authoritative sources. And when questioned about a Vice-Presidential choice in public, he has carefully mentioned a great many names in an attempt, obviously, not to offend anyone.

But there are several signs that point to Mr. Nixon's ultimate selection of someone in the center or slightly to the left of center.

One indication is the frequency with which he mentions certain names in public, and the praise that he attaches to those names in private conversation. Among the most prominent of those are Senator Charles H. Percy of Illinois, Gov. George Romney of Michigan and Gov. Daniel J. Evans of Washington.

He has also mentioned, somewhat less frequently, Senator Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon, Gov. Raymond P. Shafer of Pennsylvania, Gov. Spiro T. Agnew of Maryland, Gov. James A. Rhodes of Ohio and Representative George Bush of Texas.

In any case, most of the eight are identified with the party's progressive wing. A possible exception is Mr. Rhodes.

The views of Mr. Nixon's staff provide a second indicator. In an informal poll last week,

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 1968

Nixon Considers a Liberal for Ticket

Continued From Page 1, Col. 3

most of the Nixon entourage seemed to prefer a moderate to liberal running mate, and some of them are known to be urging this point of view on Mr. Nixon, the front-runner for the Republican nomination.

The favorite running mate of the Nixon staff, unquestionably, is Mr. Percy, both because of his well known concern for urban problems and because he might be able to swing a pivotal state, Illinois, in Mr. Nixon's direction.

Mr. Romney is a close second, for much the same reason. The Governor's name has appeared with increasing frequency in Mr. Nixon's conversation, and Mr. Romney gave the former Vice President a glowing introduction at a fundraising dinner in Lansing last Wednesday.

A third indicator is the curious absence from Mr. Nixon's conversation of the name of Gov. Ronald Reagan of California—or for that matter, any other well-known conservative, such as Texas Senator John G. Tower.

Mr. Nixon is known to admire Mr. Tower's ability and energy, but it is believed that he would take a man of Mr. Tower's ideological identification only if he decided to pursue a "Southern strategy" in the campaign. He has told friends, however, that he will not pursue such a strategy.

The case of Mr. Regan is more interesting. In late May, shortly before the Oregon primary, Mr. Nixon told reporters at a news conference in Olympia, Wash., that he would not allow the convention to choose his running mate but would choose the man himself.

There was considerable spec-

ulation at the time—and there is even more now—over the possibility that Mr. Nixon's reluctance to open the Vice-Presidential nomination to the convention stemmed from his belief, and possibly his fear, that the convention would instantly choose Mr. Reagan.

Negro Vote Sought

Mr. Nixon refuses to rule out Mr. Reagan, either publicly or privately, but the logic of his campaign seems to indicate that the California conservative is not truly in the running. For one thing, Mr. Nixon's speeches on black power, the reconciliation of the races, and his frequent references to his civil rights record suggest that he still hopes to win substantial votes among Negroes and independents in the cities, where Mr. Reagan is not popular.

Moreover, the Nixon staff believes that a liberal running mate would not jeopardize Mr. Nixon's strong standing in the South, Southwest and Midwest and would at the same time strengthen his appeal in urban areas and key swing states such as Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Conversations with those close to the candidate revealed a number of elements in the candidate's present thinking and planning.

Mr. Nixon will divide the time remaining before the Aug. 5 convention between sessions with his staff and appearances—either in person or through television—in heavily populated industrialized states.

The purpose of such appearances is to begin preparing for the general election by broadening his appeal with the electorate. But it will also, he hopes, serve to minimize whatever impact Governor Rock-

efeller, Mr. Nixon's leading rival for the nomination, may have had in these States with his recent heavy campaigning.

Regarding issues, Mr. Nixon believes he has no reason to apologize, or back away from, his recent heavy stress on law and order.

Not long ago, for example, Mr. Nixon conferred in his New York apartment for two hours with Wilt Chamberlain, the basketball player. According to associates, the Negro star told Mr. Nixon that he need not "soft-peddle the issue."

"Don't get the impression that by talking law and order you are alienating black people," Mr. Chamberlain is said to have told the candidate. "They are concerned about it too." Mr. Chamberlain works with inner city children where he is not playing basketball and is a Nixon supporter.

Mr. Nixon thinks that Vice President Humphrey, his likely Democratic opponent, can easily push him into a right-wing position by celebrating the domestic achievements of the Johnson Administration and posing as the campaign of social progress.

Mr. Nixon acknowledges that he cannot "outpromise" Mr. Humphrey. Instead, he will argue that despite all the Administration's efforts, the cities are still in desperate trouble, and new approaches are therefore necessary.

On Vietnam, Mr. Nixon is said to resent those who continue to label him as a "classic" military hawk who would escalate the war. He is said to believe there is plenty of room for negotiation of a settlement that would not encourage other guerrilla-type of wars in the Pacific.

Front-page story
New York Times
6-30-68

June 27, 1968

Dear Dad,

The answer is "no" on running for the House and another office.

The Texas Election Code provides that "The name of no candidate shall appear more than once upon the official ballot, except.....when a candidate has been duly nominated for the office of President or Vice-President of the United States and also for an office requiring a state-wide vote for election."

This was the "Lyndon Johnson" law passed to allow him to run for the U. S. Senate and Vice President in 1960.

Thanks for your card---I was glad to get the good report on the boys.

Devotedly,

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

PRESCOTT S. BUSH
PHEASANT LANE
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT

JP
AV

Geo.: What did you find out about running for the House in the event you are nominated for V*P?

We thoroughly enjoyed Georgie here. He has a great personality. Likewise we loved having the other lads. You have much to be thankful for, in your children. Love... DAD

DRESSER

DRESSER INDUSTRIES, INC., REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, DALLAS, TEXAS 75221

H. N. MALLON

June 4, 1968

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
214/748-8411

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Representative George H. W. Bush
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

file
no reply

My dear George:

Bob Novak, Washington columnist, called me long distance yesterday and asked me for reasons why George Bush would make an excellent Vice Presidential running mate for Richard Nixon. I gave him treatment 37 over the telephone and mentioned in addition, that one hurdle we would have to get over is the likely opposition (jealously) of John Tower. He said there might be ways of handling that.

I don't know where all this is leading but cannot see how it can do any harm. Don't reply.

Sincerely,

Neil

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

vms/CB GRIMES, DAVID G.

BUSH FOR VICE PRESIDENT

July 1, 1968

Dear Burley:

Thanks for your great letter to Richard Nixon, and thanks for your great letter to me. It was good seeing you here and I just wish that I had seen more of you.

I apologize for things being rather hectic. Love to Sue and the kids. Let me know when you are coming back this way.

Best regards,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. David C. Grimes
President
Brentwood Savings and Loan Assn.
12001 San Vicente Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90049

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

RECEIVED

JUN 26 1968

BRENTWOOD
SAVINGS AND LOAN
ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1924

DAVID C. GRIMES
President

June 21, 1968

The Honorable George Bush
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear George:

With the passing of the tax bill and assuming you were a vigorous advocate, I want to congratulate you and the Congress as well as thank you for the nifty lunch at the Capitol and the excessive offering of cocktails at your house! You have won my financial support for your campaign, however modest it may be.

I hope you're feeling better. I can assure you the ensuing activities with the Ashleys would have done nothing to contribute to the improvement of your general health. We went to the White House for lunch with the Rostows Tuesday, which accounts for our inability to join you again, and because of the previous evening, we both took a nap at the hotel that afternoon which extended too far into the evening to try to get in touch with you again.

Please give Barbara and the children our love. Keep after the ticket.

Best regards,

Burley



June 21, 1968

Richard Nixon, Esquire
20 Broad Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Nixon:

As a Republican and a resident of your home state who previously lived in New York City and Texas, I would hope I would have some perspective and judgment in suggesting for your consideration Congressman George Bush of Houston as Vice President on your ticket in November.

Mr. Bush' personal credentials are probably well known to you and your advisors and need no elaboration from me. But as an interested observer of this political year, I believe my voice would represent millions in supporting this splendid young man from the southwest. Your image and his in combination lends to the Republican party an excitement to long monopolized by the Democrats.

Cordially,

bcc: The Honorable George Bush

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

RECEIVED

CORINTHIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

JUL 1 1968

June 27, 1968

The Hon. Richard Nixon
810 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Nixon:

It is the purpose of this letter to suggest that Congressman George Bush would make an excellent running mate on your ticket.

For the past ten years, before my recent move to New York, I was General Manager of Corinthian's Houston station, KHOU-TV. During these years, I became a close friend and admirer of George Bush. He is, I believe, the Republican Party's most articulate young spokesman. Most important, I think, is the fact that George is a superb television performer and one to whom people in all walks of life can identify. He personifies young America on the move and at the same time reflects the good judgement and common sense which also appeals to the forty year olds and above.

Perhaps you will think me presumptuous in writing this letter, but I am motivated by a deep interest in the Republican Party. This coupled with some knowledge of demographics, garnered through years of moving product on television, leaves me to believe that our Party needs a stronger identity with the youth of America. George Bush is ideally equipped to handle this assignment.

Your consideration will be appreciated and in the meantime all success to you Mr. President.

Sincerely,



James G. Richdale, Jr.
President,
Corinthian Stations Division

JCR:em

bcc: The Hon. George Bush ✓
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

THE CHILDREN'S CLINIC

Geo Bush

JOHN A. WEETZ, M.D.
GEORGE WILLEFORD, M.D.
CHARLES BINNEY II, M.D.
GEORGE J. TOLAND, JR., M.D.

RECEIVED

JUN 25 1968

1720 CAREY DRIVE
HARLINGEN, TEXAS 78550
GA 3-6330 AREA CODE 512

JUNE 17, 1968

THE HONORABLE FLETCHER THOMPSON,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

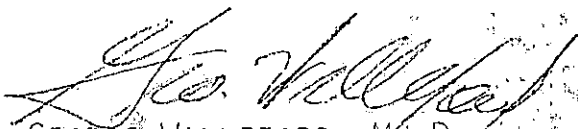
DEAR MR. THOMPSON:

AT YOUR SUGGESTION I HAVE WRITTEN TO MR. NIXON SUGGESTING
OUR FRIEND, GEORGE BUSH, AS A POSSIBLE VICE PRESIDENTIAL
RUNNING MATE. ENCLOSED IS A COPY OF THE LETTER.

I CONSIDER GEORGE TO BE AN IDEAL CANDIDATE AND YOU CAN BE
ASSURED THAT I WILL BE PUSHING FOR HIM ALL THE WAY. IF
YOU HAVE ANY OTHER IDEAS AS TO HOW I CAN BE OF HELP, PLEASE
LET ME KNOW.

I HOPE TO MEET YOU AND TOM KEEFFE AT THE CONVENTION AT
WHICH TIME I WILL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU IF YOU WISH.

CORDIALLY,


GEORGE WILLEFORD, M. D.

GW/JT

ENCLOSURE

JUNE 17, 1968

MR. RICHARD M. NIXON
810 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

DEAR MR. NIXON:

I AM A DELEGATE TO THE GOP NATIONAL CONVENTION IN MIAMI.
I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT TIME AND TO YOUR BEING
OUR CANDIDATE IN THE COMING RACE--THEN ON TO THE WHITE
HOUSE.

GEORGE BUSH WOULD BE A TERRIFIC ASSET TO YOUR TICKET IN
THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL SPOT. WHY? GEORGE IS NOT ONLY
EXTREMELY CAPABLE BUT HE IS A NATURAL VOTE GETTER AND
CROWD PLEASER. I AM SURE I DON'T HAVE TO POINT OUT
THAT HE RECEIVED MORE VOTES THAN ANY OTHER GOP CANDIDATE
IN TEXAS HISTORY IN HIS RACE FOR THE U. S. SENATE IN
1964. YES, HE DID EXCEPTIONALLY WELL EVEN IN SPITE OF
THE POOR SHOWING OUR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE MADE AGAINST
LBJ.

MANY VOTERS IN THE SOUTH AND THE SOUTHWEST WANT SOMEONE
WITH WHOM THEY CAN IDENTIFY. THE UNSOPHISTICATED NEED
THEIR HANDS HELD. I FEEL GEORGE CAN APPEAL TO THE NATION
WIDE VOTER AND STILL BE A BEAM FOR THE SOUTHERN GROUP TO
'HOME IN ON' -- SO TO SPEAK.

I HOPE YOU WILL NOT FEEL ME PRESUMPTIOUS IN WRITING TO
YOU AND EXPRESSING WHAT I THINK IS A VERY IMPORTANT
THOUGHT.

GOOD LUCK IN THE COMING MONTHS.

SINCERELY,

GEORGE WILLEFORD, M. D.

GW/JT

VICE PRESIDENTIAL FILE - Mr. James C.
Richdale - as

June 14, 1968

Dear Mr. Richdale,

George Bush showed me your recent letter about the Evans-Novak column speculating on the possibility of his being Mr. Nixon's running mate.

Because I, and a number of George's colleagues in the 90th Congress, think so highly of George's ability and the need of the nation for leadership such as his, I am taking the liberty of writing you to suggest that you relay your views to Mr. Nixon at 810 Fifth Avenue, New York.

There may be some reasons why you feel you cannot actively participate to this extent and, if so, we would certainly understand. However, we who are working in the House with George are actively supporting this move and if you and others like you join us, we can let Mr. Nixon know that there is much merit to a Nixon-Bush ticket.

Yours very truly,

Fletcher Thompson, M.C.

Mr. James C. Richdale
Corinthian Broadcasting Corp.
110 West 51st Street
New York, N. Y. 10020

VICE PRESIDENTIAL FILE -
James C. Richdale - as:gb

June 14, 1968

Dear Jim,

It was great hearing from you.

There is a little substance to the Evans-Novak column; however, I think my chances are pretty much the same as Roy Hofheinz being named "Most Unselfish Man of the Year"!

I would like to discuss this with you when you're down here within the next two or three weeks. There is some interesting background.

Best regards,

George Bush, M.C.C.

Mr. James C. Richdale
Corinthian Broadcasting Corp.
110 West 51st Street
New York, N. Y. 10020

RECEIVED

JUN 13 1968

June 12, 1968

The Hon. George Bush
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear George:

I very much appreciated your kind note of congratulations. Obviously this was a big decision for me and my family but I am confident that things will work out well for us.

I read with great interest Rollie Evans' column suggesting you as the Vice Presidential running mate with Richard Nixon and must say I endorse this 100%. I certainly agree that your television style is excellent and that you would be a hard and effective campaigner.

I would certainly be interested in your reaction to this proposal -- as would all of your friends. I hope to be in Washington within the next two or three weeks and will give you a call.

Very best to you and your family. Warm personal regards.

Sincerely,



JCR:em

James C. Richdale

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

VICE PRESIDENTIAL FILE -
George Willeford, M.D. - as

June 13, 1968

Dear Dr. Willeford,

George Bush told me of your visit with him at the State Convention. Inasmuch as Tom Kleppe of North Dakota and I are coordinating this move among George's colleagues in the House---feeling that it makes an awful lot of sense for many reasons---I am wondering if you would be willing to write a letter to Mr. Nixon at 810 Fifth Avenue, New York, telling him that you think this idea has some merit.

Coming from Texas, it might be helpful for you to point out that George got more votes than any Republican running for office in Texas before or since his race for the U. S. Senate in 1964.

George told me you are a state Party official and there might be reasons why you might not want to do this, but we are all so interested in this project that I thought I would ask you to participate to this extent. If you can't, I would certainly understand.

Very truly yours,

Fletcher Thompson, M.C.

George Willeford, M.D.
1019 E. Parkwood
Harlingen, Texas 78550

VICE PRESIDENTIAL FILE -
Mr. L. F. McCollum

June 12, 1968

Dear Mr. McCollum:

George Bush has taken me into his confidence and told me about his visit with you on the vice presidential speculation. What we think is important is that people of influence contact Mr. Nixon personally (at 810 Fifth Avenue, New York) or those close to Mr. Nixon.

We who are working in the House with George are actively supporting this move. Because we think so highly of his ability and the need of the nation for leadership such as his, I am taking the liberty of writing you to suggest that you relay your views to Mr. Nixon.

By you and others like you joining us, we can let Mr. Nixon know that there is much merit to a Nixon-Bush ticket.

Yours very truly,

Fletcher Thompson, M.C.

Mr. L. F. McCollum
Continental Oil Company
Capital Nat'l Bank Bldg.
P. O. Box 2081
Houston, Texas 77001

June 12, 1968

Dear Keith,

Thanks for your great letter.

I was pleased by the column, of course.
Long shots are so categorized because
they don't often come in!

I took the liberty of showing your letter
to a couple of my colleagues in the House
who are interested in this.

I feel a little arrogant even suggesting
this, but in response to your last sen-
tence, all that can be done is let the
man or his assistants know how you and
the others feel.

Thanks for this flattering interest.

Very truly yours,

George Bush, M.C.

Mr. Keith W. Blinn
Continental Oil Company
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N. Y. 10020

VICE PRESIDENTIAL FILE -

Mr. Keith W. Blinn- as

June 11, 1968

Dear Mr. Blinn,

George Bush showed me your recent letter about the speculation regarding his being considered by Mr. Nixon as his running mate.

Because I, and a number of George's colleagues in the 90th Congress, think so highly of George's ability and the need of the nation for leadership such as his, I am taking the liberty of writing you to suggest that you relay your views to Mr. Nixon.

We who are working in the House with George are actively supporting this move. By you and others like you joining us, we can let Mr. Nixon know that there is much merit to a Nixon-Bush ticket.

Yours very truly,

Fletcher Thompson, M.C.

Mr. Keith W. Blinn,
Vice Pres. and General Counsel
Continental Oil Company
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N. Y. 10020

CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY

30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10020

KEITH W. BLINN
VICE PRESIDENT AND
GENERAL COUNSEL

June 7, 1968

The Honorable George H. W. Bush
4910 Hillbrook Lane
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear George:

I read both with interest and tremendous delight an article in the New York Post that your name has been urged by Billy Graham and others for Vice President. This morning I mentioned this in the Management Executive Committee, and your good friend Jack Dorgan had the clipping with him. While I appreciate the delicacies of the situation, be assured that many of us would be delighted to do anything we can to achieve this end.

Sincerely,



KWB-bld

from Thompson's *RS*
Recognizing the rights of the Republican Presidential
nominee to select his own running mate and without attempting
in any way to infringe on this right, ^{we same} ~~a group~~ of colleagues
of Congressman George Bush of Texas have decided to inject
George's name into the public arena for consideration as a ^{by whom even an} ~~& Del. Mann~~
Vice Presidential nominee. *consideration of the*

~~All of us feel that~~ *We feel we*
~~We have a duty and responsibility~~
help encourage the best possible
to the American public to ~~select from the outstanding qualifications~~
persons for the Vice President and ~~of one of our members and we~~ *are for this reason*
~~therefore, taking this opportunity~~
to suggest the name of George Bush
~~so.~~

George Bush will, in our considered opinion, add
greatly to the strength of the Republican ticket in November.
~~At this point we should like to point out that~~ *While* George is
a Congressman from Texas and has made Texas his home for approx-
imately 20 years, his early background is in the New England area.
George's father, the honorable Prescott Bush, is the former Senator
from Connecticut, ~~and is now a partner in one of the leading~~
~~New York brokerage firms.~~ George Bush is unique in that he does
not merely have regional appeal, but ~~the~~ ^{appeal} cause of his experience
has a national ~~flavor~~.

In the days of modern electronics it is important not
only that the Vice Presidential candidate be a person of very

high intelligence (George Bush was a Phi Beta Kappa at Yale University) but also that he has the ability to project, ~~by means of the television media,~~ his thoughts and his image in a favorable fashion. Those who have seen George on television and who have observed the manner in which he handles himself recognize the fact that not only does he have youth, an attractive personal appearance, an ability to articulate clearly his positions, but also the charisma so essential to a successful national politician.

A review of George Bush's legislative record will disclose that he has established a reputation of being a person who studiously considers each measure based on its merit regardless of whether it is a Republican or Democratic proposal and further, that he has made every effort to assure all Americans ~~an~~ equal opportunity and equal rights *with their Fellow Americans.*

The war record of George Bush is enviable in that he was commissioned at the age of 18 as a naval aviator. During World War II he served as a torpedo bomber ^{P. 64} in the South Pacific where he received the Distinguished Flying Cross and three Air Medals. During one battle after having been hit by enemy fire he was forced to abandon his aircraft and was rescued by submarine. Prior to his congressional service, George formed and operated a successful off-shore oil drilling firm. He resigned as President

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library
Vice C. Reg. Desk for Ted off. Solano

and Chairman of the Board of this firm, Zapata Off-Shore Company, upon entering the Congress.

George Bush is married to the former Barbara Pierce of New York. They have five children - George, 22; Jeb, 15; Neal, 13; Marvin, 11; and a daughter Dorothy, 9.

George's father, Prescott Bush, served in the United States Senate as Senator from Connecticut from 1952 until 1962 when he retired from public life. His mother, the former Dorothy Walker, is the daughter of the patron of golf's Walker Cup.

The leaders of the Congress early recognized George Bush's ability and
~~As a final tribute to George Bush we feel compelled to mention that~~ in an almost unprecedented action, the leadership of the House of Representatives saw fit to place George on the House Ways and Means Committee as a Freshman, something that has happened only three times previously in the history of the Congress.

His fellow Texans have held him in such high esteem that no one, neither Democrat or Republican, has challenged him for re-election.

Deh
We wish to make it amply clear that in suggesting to the Republican Presidential nominee George Bush as running mate, we are attempting to fulfill an obligation which we as

persons dedicated to public service feel very deeply ~~and~~ that
is simply to attempt to obtain without regard to political
considerations ~~the~~ very best person for the position as the ^{best} means of
promoting the continued welfare of our beloved United States of
America.