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1	62	10/20/1971	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Memo	From John Dean to the Attorney General and Haldeman RE: White House financial support for Thacher Longstreth, a Republican mayoral candidate in Philadelphia. 2 pgs.

October 20, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
H. R. HALDEMAN

FROM: JOHN W. DEAN, III
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Longstreth-Rizzo Campaign -
Philadelphia

Rose Mary Woods referred to my office a call from Reeves Bunting, who works for the Republican State Finance Committee of Pennsylvania and is currently involved in the mayoral race between Thacher Longstreth and Frank Rizzo.

Bunting is requesting financial assistance from the "White House" for Longstreth's campaign, stressing the importance of a Republican victory in Philadelphia to the President's chances in the state in 1972. He advises that he does not want to approach Tom Evans and the Republican National Committee with such a request at this time, but I suspect from our conversation that such a request may have already been made to Evans. Nor does Bunting feel that the Republican State Committee is a viable source of needed funds, because that group is having financial difficulties. He did not even suggest the amount of money he felt was needed.

Bunting advises that this will be a very difficult contest but he feels that Longstreth is gaining steadily and has a realistic chance of winning, the margin of victory to probably be determined by a 20,000 vote swing. I have heard independently of this conversation that Longstreth's position has greatly improved after a recent television debate with Rizzo, the latter coming off to many observers as being very ill-equipped to handle the complex problems of a large city, but that his chances are still not that good.

However, I suppose a Longstreth victory is possible. Although the Democrats have an overwhelming registration advantage in Philadelphia, as you know Arlan Spector was able to win by a very respectable margin in the off-year race for District Attorney after having been soundly beaten by Mayor Tate two years before. The instant contest is an interesting one, since Rizzo will gain some support from blue-collar Republican registrants but Longstreth has the liberal and reform Democrat vote in Center City. The large black vote, traditionally turned out by the Democratic ward leaders, may be some source of Republic votes in this election since many black leaders and segments of the black community oppose Rizzo and feel his election would generate racial problems and polarize the city.

Of course, I am not intimately aware of the entire situation in Philadelphia, and realize the sensitivity of strongly opposing a candidate who is so closely identified with law and order (and unfortunately Longstreth's people have apparently not been successful in also so identifying him and negating the issue). However, I thought I should pass along the foregoing for your information and whatever action you deem appropriate.