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July 5, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

STEVE KARALEKAS

FROM:

CHARLES COLSON

Would you please put together a couple speeches and a fact sheet on the things that Candidate Nixon said in '68 about the negotiations then underway between the Johnson Administration and North Vietnam. Then-Candidate Nixon was very restrained. Bear in mind the interesting point that McGovern will be making his acceptance speech on the day that the Paris peace negotiations resume. This may pose a lovely trap for him if we can get the right foundation built. People should start speaking about the responsibility of Presidential candidates; the danger of candidates speaking out in such a way that may sabotage negotiations; this historical comparison with Candidate Nixon, etc. Then, if McGovern does what is predictable in his acceptance speech, our people should be ready to hit very, very hard. His acceptance speech may be the most significant speech of the campaign. He will undoubtedly talk about his better deal with Hanoi, but he will be careful not to put it in those terms; it is up to us, however, to put it in those terms.

If you will get the information together, Noel Koch can start some of the fellows on the Hill on this drumbeat. Clawson can perhaps promote a column or two or maybe work this into pieces written about McGovern and you might talk to the Vice President's staff to see if he has an opportunity in the next 10 days to give this kind of speech. No one has to mention McGovern by name.