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August 31, 1972

4120 S. W. 102 Avenue
Beaverton, Oregon 97005

Mr. H. R. Haldeman
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob:

I have not written you since you went to Washington, but have watched your progress and must say you have gone a long way. We originally met in your office while you were with the Los Angeles office of the J. Walter Thompson Company through our beloved departed friend and your co-worker Frances Scully. She and I originally met when I was working for Judge Harlan Palmer of the Hollywood Citizen-News. I was in your office a number of times, went out socially with Frances, and accompanied her as a guest at the Dodger Stadium where the J. Walter Thompson Company had a box for the season. You were also present on this occasion.

While with the Citizen-News, Judge Palmer started a campaign against ticket fixing in Los Angeles. I carried the ball and my work was recognized in Sacramento. At the request of Governor Merriam, I joined his staff and organized a state wide traffic safety program. I learned to know many good Republicans such as Holmes Tuttle, Henry Salvatori, Goodwin Knight, Cy Rubel, Harvey Firestone, Henry Clock, Ronald Reagan, Bob Finch, Gladys O'Donnell, etc., etc. Since those days, many changes have taken place in the party.

The reason I am writing you at this time is because I am very concerned about the affairs of our country. What worries me most is the complacency of some of our older citizens. They gradually feel their lifetime savings slipping away through inflation. They are not happy with President Nixon and don't want any part of Senator McGovern.

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A general attitude seems to prevail, "I just won't vote for either", not realizing that this could put McGovern in the White House. Whenever I run into this problem, I straighten out the fallacy in a hurry and usually save the vote for President Nixon.

Much stress is being put on the young vote and not enough on the retired. The latter can be a very potent factor in winning the election for President Nixon, but it lacks much needed organizing effort. These are the people most of whom have worked hard to make this country great and know the answer to success. These same people do not want McGovernism and have the time and are willing to get out and work if given the opportunity. They do not want a totalitarian form of government. I am sure none of these people were among the 800 arrested at the Miami Convention.

Today we have three age groups. The first is the 18 to 30, the second 30 to 60, and the third over 60. Many of the first especially 18 to 25 are dependent on the second and third for finances. A big percentage of these can't stand on their own and don't know the meaning of earning their own way. Thank goodness the majority is alright, but the minority is the cause of much unrest.

People claim that the youth of today is smarter than previous generations. I don't agree. The youth may be smarter academically, but not from a practical standpoint. Take yourself as an example, you were 23 when you started with the J. Walter Thompson Company; and I was only 17 when I went with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. I got my education the hard way after I started to work. We were not the exception to the rule. Opportunities always have been available for those desirous of forging ahead.

The second group's thinking today is the result of too much John Deweyism and Progressive Education. Some of these parents are contributing financial chaos to the younger group. They are just as confused as their children and try to appease their guilt with money instead of love and affection. When money ceases to mean anything to the child, he or she leaves home and in many cases goes the ways of the hippies, dope, etc. Bobby Kennedy's son is a typical case in point.

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The third group is the forgotten one. They through experience know a lot of the answers, but are being shelved and looked upon as a bunch of old foggies. Yet this group had the tenacity to pull us out of the 1929 depression and can be depended on at this time to bring us out of the present dilemma. We must instill confidence in these people to carry the ball for President Nixon as they know the price of freedom. They have the will, the know how, experience, and desire to meet the challenges if given the opportunity. Instead many of the first and second group consider them excess baggage. In Sweden, the senior citizens are respected - a good example for us to follow.

Today among a small portion of the first group, we have a gang of killers, rioters, perverts, and revolutionists who are furnishing the fuel for the McGovern campaign and should Senator McGovern be elected; heaven forbid, they would be in front with Ramsey Clark to run the government. I have just one plea with you, Bob, let's not become too complacent. Let not a stone go unturned to keep President Nixon in the White House. We can help by giving more recognition not only to the senior citizens, but also all age brackets who believe in this democracy.

I have always been interested in honest Constitutional government. I worked for Dick Nixon's campaign when he ran for Congress against Jerry Voorhis, again for the Senate against the Pink Lady, Helen Gahagen Douglas. Likewise, for the Governorship of California against Pat Brown and the last campaign of 1968.

I probably don't agree with many of President Nixon's policies, but this is no time to find fault. We all must be united and have him reelected. Thank God for him that we still have a free nation and where we can express our views as I have taken the liberty to do in this letter. Constructive criticism builds for a stronger nation. Destructive criticism tears down, brings about anarchy, treason, and violence and could result in a reign of totalitarianism. As a former Marine, my fighting blood is boiling for a sure win and continuation in office of President Nixon. We must have a day of victory on November 7.

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I am presently here in Oregon, but expect to return to California before too long. I am still a registered voter there. After living in our state for many years, I miss my many friends.

With kindest personal regards to you and President Nixon.

Most cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerry H. Lockner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Gerry H. Lockner

GHL:db