

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
Contested Materials Collection
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6	66	11/16/1970	<input type="checkbox"/>	White House Staff	Memo	From Haldeman to Keogh RE: RN's views on Jeff Hart. 2 pgs.
6	66	11/16/1970	<input type="checkbox"/>	White House Staff	Memo	From Haldeman to Keogh RE: RN's views on Jeff Hart. 2 pgs.
6	66	10/26/1970	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Memo	From Haldeman to Klein RE: working with Buckley in New York. 1 pg.
6	66	11/18/1970	<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Policy	Memo	From Moynihan to Haldeman RE: John Price's engagement to Victoria Pohle. 1 pg.

November 16, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR : MR. KEOGH

The President seems to have been fairly well impressed by Jeff Hart with regard to intelligence and general ability.

He does feel that Hart is completely missing the point on the book, at least as far as what we would want done.

In this regard, the President got the distinct impression that Hart's whole approach is based on his total obsession with the political stuff instead of the personal nature of the comeback. Thus, he's missing the really good story which is the personal comeback. Instead, he's concentrating on the development of the Conservative movement in America with his whole emphasis on politics.

The President feels that this will be a very good book - that Hart is an honest reporter, etc., but that it will not be a good book for us because it misses the whole mystique of the Nixon character and the fascinating story of how he lost and then came back.

The point arises now as to whether it would be possible and profitable to try to switch Hart to a more personal and less political approach. The argument could be made that the political stuff that he's going after has already been written and that it is a waste of his time. On the other hand, he's had access to all of us in complete depth and could do a superb job of writing the personal story if he would do so.

One thought the President had was to have Hart talk with Henry Kissinger regarding the way the President has dealt with the difficult situations that have come up during the Administration such as the Cambodia decision, etc. He could also give him some background on the bombing halt just before the election, which, apparently Hart was trying to pursue with the President.

The key though, is to try to get him to go for Nixon, the man, the character, etc., rather than the dry political stuff.

An analogy could be made here to the deGaulle ~~story~~. The point with deGaulle was not that his policies were so great, but that the man and his ability to survive and to pull others up with him is a fascinating story - especially fascinating to people - but most authors seem to miss it.

Also, maybe Hart could get more of the feel of Nixon the person from Rose Woods, getting into depth on how tough it was during the period from 1962 - 1968 in New York, where he was working without any political staff and had to survive the deliberate snubs of the Administration, the National Committee, and many others.

Another point of concern is that Hart is apparently working on the isolation line and the theory that the President doesn't get any input. This, we certainly need to shoot down, and I'd be glad to talk with him further - show him the news summary - the memoes that the President gets from various people - such as, for example, the whole series of memoes on the analysis of the election so that he knows what the President sees. He's apparently buying the Marcus Childs line to some extent at least.

Let's consider what we do on this because it could be quite important.

The President did agree to take a set of written questions Hart might want to submit and give him thoughtful answers on them. I'd be interested in Hart's reaction to his interview with the President and how he felt it went.

H. R. HALDEMAN

HRH:pm

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H. R. HALDEMAN

HRH:pm

NS

Draw

October 26, 1970

EYES ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KLEIN

It is suggested that there is a need for developing a closer identity with Buckley. It is not possible, of course, for the President to take any further steps, although there is strong urging from New York that he openly endorse Buckley, which he cannot do.

The suggestion is made that you could go in to New York, get on a television program, and endorse Buckley at that time your self on a personal basis.

You could say that the President, of course, as party leader, cannot go against his party, but I, Herb Klein, would have to say that if I had a choice and were voting in New York and felt I wanted to help the President, I would certainly cast my vote for Buckley.

You would have to state this as your personal view, and it is strongly felt that it would be a good idea for you to do so.

H. R. HALDEMAN

EYES ONLY

HRH:cg

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



November 18, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR

H. R. HALDEMAN

I am sure the President would want to know that John Price has become engaged to Miss Victoria Pohle, a member of the Ash Commission staff, and reportedly an excellent cook.



Daniel P. Moynihan