

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
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DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING March 9, 1971
E.O. 12065 Section 6-102
By RM NARS, Date 7-21-90

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MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KLEIN
FROM: DeVAN L. SHUMWAY
RE: Re-election

I am getting concerned about repeated reports that the President may not be a candidate for re-election next year. The latest version was this morning in the Washington Post (I am attaching a clip) in which the reporters ask Governor Rockefeller if he'd like to be the nominee.

As you will note, the governor answered that he would, but that he expects to be supporting President Nixon for another term.

The Weekend Wire service summary has a story from Senator Alan Cranston -- who certainly is in NO position to have inside knowledge -- reporting a "growing feeling" that the President may not seek re-election in 1972. Cranston's principal reason was that we're still in Vietnam.

Can I make a couple of suggestions:

1. You and I leak the word to the columnists with whom we deal that the Attorney General is about to resign (assuming it's true) to take over active management of the campaign. We may want to make some hay with Jeb Magruder's move into the campaign by planting a rumor that he's leaving.
2. We get Senator Dole to meet with Ray Lake of UPI and Wally Mears of the AP and outline the steps that have been taken toward President Nixon's re-election -- bringing Lyn to the Committee, the addition of other key staffers including Cliff Anderson, that type of information wound into one package. (An alternative of this would be if you or I sat down with Dave Broder with this whole thing packaged to convince him of the movement.)

Obviously, we cannot ask the President to change during this "non-political" year into a more "political" figure. But it seems to me that we can and should keep the political pot boiling for the re-nomination.

What do you think?

BCC: Mr. Colson
Mr. Magruder

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