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STORY:MEMO
MA:60 FMT:

QUEUE:SJF-SJF
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OPR:SJF ;11/17,11:20

To: mls lt gp rak dr jwm tjf pa jsl tg rab kj

From: sjf

Reagan's visit to Washington:

President-elect Reagan will spend most of his time in Washington this week with members of Congress. His schedule includes separate meetings with Senator Laxalt, Senate Republicans, House Republicans, the House Speaker and the Senate majority leader, plus a dinner Wednesday night with Senate Republicans and spouses.

Other events on the schedule: A visit with President Carter at the White House on Thursday, a stop at Teamsters headquarters Tuesday, a private party Tuesday night at the Street Club, dinner at the home of George Will Thursday night and a meeting with the transition staff Friday.

Reagan arrives in town about 6 p.m. tonight and departs for California again at noon on Friday. He will not come back to Washington until December 8. Although plans are still vague, it now appears that Cabinet appointments and many other major announcements will be made during those two weeks in California. Some White House appointments might even begin to dribble out this week. My guess is the next two appointments will be national security adviser and domestic adviser (probably Allen and Anderson), and maybe press secretary.

Independent studies. In today's briefing, Jim Brady said the president-elect has received recommendations from four independent groups: Heritage Foundation, Brookings

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nstitution, the Kennedy School at Harvard and the Center for the Study of the Presidency. (The National Academy of Public Administration report was put together by a man at the Harvard school, so it may be one of these four.)

(END)

November 26, 1980

FROM: SJF - Santa Barbara

TO: MLS, LT, JF, BFP, GP, DR, LH, DXB, JWM, DCB, TJF, JSL, SJF, RAK, PA, PGH, ^{AT}

RE: Report on Reagan from California

President-elect Ronald Reagan hopes to fill several top cabinet posts by early next week. That's what I get from reading between the lines ^{OF} ~~from~~ a telephone interview on Tuesday with Justin Dart.

According to Dart, Reagan's kitchen cabinet is planning another meeting early next week. At that time, he says, the group will review Reagan's progress toward filling the cabinet and make additional recommendations. Asked to explain what that means, he noted that some people are being considered for more than one job and others might say no. "We don't know yet who's going to take them," he said. "It's like a game of dominoes. If some fall down, you start the whole ball game over again."

This badly ~~mixed~~ metaphor goes beyond anything we've been able to ^wring out of the Reagan staff so far this week on the process of selecting a cabinet. Dart's remarks indicate that Reagan intends to contact his top candidates for such key jobs as state and defense over the next few days. This probably includes George Shultz, who might decline to serve, and Alexander Haig, who is being considered both for Defense and State. Reagan's next move will depend on whether these people accept or reject the positions he is offering them.

Senator Paul Laxalt also suggested on Monday that the cabinet-selection process is almost over. As he entered Reagan's house for a meeting with top advisers, Laxalt described the session as "part of the ongoing process -- getting down near the end of the road." When that meeting ended, no one denied that the cabinet choices had been made. They simply avoided the question. Reagan's response was, "We have nothing to report." Lyn Nofziger evaded the question by saying, "When we have got a decision to announce, we'll announce it." Asked later if the cabinet would be appointed before

December 9, when Reagan plans to return to Washington, the President-elect replied: "I don't know whether we'll be ready by then, but I hope so, or even before then."

Dart also declined to say whether Reagan had actually decided on his top choices. He confirmed the Washington Post account of his behavior at the cabinet-selection meetings, although he added in a joking way that he does not say things like "hell with them." He said the kitchen cabinet also intends to make recommendations for subcabinet positions.

Conflicting Pressures. Reagan is under conflicting pressure from special-interest groups as he begins to shape his cabinet and his administration. Conservatives top the list. "We've had pressure from a lot of people -- including conservatives," Laxalt said. As an example of the kinds of pressure that are being brought to bear, Dart says he has received many telephone calls -- "Hundreds of them" -- from people recommending themselves or others for cabinet positions. "Very few ended up on the list," he says.

Dart denies reports that he has sided with conservatives who criticize Reagan for relying too heavily on the Nixon-Ford administration personnel. He admits he favors people who have been long-time Reagan supporters. "If everything else was equal and a person had been a long and loyal supporter of Governor Reagan, they'd get my call," he said. But he quickly adds: "Experience has got to win out. Let's just say there were a lot of capable people regardless of the tragedy of the Nixon administration." And Dart concedes that the list prepared by the kitchen cabinet is heavily weighted toward the Nixon-Ford types.

On the subject of economic policy, these conflicting pressures are not currently apparent out here in California. Budget and tax cuts have been overshadowed by cabinet selection. ^{KEVIN} ~~Given~~ ^[?] Hopkins ^[?] who is Marty Andersen's aide, told me last week that nothing had been done yet with the list of potential budget cuts that Reagan received from his economic advisers before going to Washington last week. I gather the debate on

this subject is concentrated on Capital Hill.

Task Forces. Reagan would probably be under more pressure from special interest^s if he had not set up so many task forces to help him develop policy. Conservatives have been well represented on these task forces. All of the task-force reports have now been submitted to Reagan, who indicated on Tuesday that he had already read many of them. "I am in great agreement with much of them," he said. "There may be a few points ~~that~~ here and there where I might put something in a second priority rather than a first. Those reports substantiate the very things that I've been favoring and say^{ing}." The reports make many radical suggestions. Among them:

*On energy, remove all price controls on oil and natural gas, speed up licensing of nuclear plants, abandon conservation efforts, open public lands for energy exploration and give more tax breaks to the oil companies.

*On housing, end government-housing programs and instead provide vouchers to low-income people that will allow them to live wherever they want.

*On health, repeal limits on prices paid for drugs under medicare and medicaid, and discontinue the Federal Drug Administration's guide to comparative costs of prescription drugs.

Commenting directly on the energy task-force report Tuesday, Reagan said: "We're going to have to take whatever action is necessary to increase domestic supplies of energy. That is the answer to our problem instead of continued foreign dependence and thinking that we can meet the problem just by conservation. Conservation means that we'll all have to be too hot in the summer and too cold in the winter."

- more (ES) -

Reagan's health. For your story on Reagan's health, you might note that he visited his allergist, Dr. Ralph Bookman, of Beverley Hills, on Monday. He told reporters he had "a couple of the dust kind" of allergies. "I never asked him very much, but I've just been kind of seasonal," he said. "I take shots fairly regularly and then in the spring is when I used to be a hay-fever sufferer and I haven't had any seriousness since that time. ~~This is~~ this was just time for another checkup to make sure we hadn't added any."

Reagan at rest. The above quote suggests why Reagan has been avoiding reporters all this week. It appears that he is so completely relaxed right now that he can't pull his ~~THOUGHTS~~ ^{THOUGHTS} ~~suds~~ together easily. Reagan was noticeably perturbed on Monday when he found a ~~court~~ ^{HORDE} of reporters in his driveway. Reporters were allowed to go up to the house to watch Reagan accept two gift turkeys from the California ~~Turkey~~ ^{Turkey} Growers. Nofziger threw a tantrum when one reporter tried to ask Reagan a question during the turkey presentation. At the ranch, where the Reagans are spending Thanksgiving, the President-elect indicated he intends to spend more time on "the brush and the wood pile" than on his plans for the administration.

Neighborhood rentals. Although Reagan's ~~specific~~ ^{Pacific} Palisades neighbors are not likely to put up with gawking tourists during his Presidency, they are not opposed to making a few extra bucks on the deal. One neighbor woman rented her house to the transition team. She also rented two trees to the wire services for their telephones. The tree rental is \$1 a day — up from 50 cents before the election. CBS also is paying \$500 a month for a parking space in a driveway next to the Reagan's house. Meanwhile, the street on which Reagan lives has been blockaded by security people (not the Secret Service). Only ~~reporters in residence~~ ^{AND TS} are being permitted beyond the sawhorses at the foot of the hill. Temporary no-parking signs have been hung on all the bushes along the roads leading to the Reagan house.

Aides disappear. After their meeting on Monday, Reagan's aides quickly left

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California without talking to reporters. Meese went back to Washington, and the rest of them went home for Thanksgiving. We expect most of Reagan's aides back here by Friday, however. Bush was assigned to represent the President-elect at John McCormick's funeral. This prompted many jokes, since Reagan had said earlier that Bush's chief duties as Vice President would not include attending funerals.

(END FILE -- rw)

STORY:TUG\$
MA:60 FMT:

QUEUE:RAKX-RAK
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OPR:RAK ;11/26,12:24

TO: MLS, LT, DR, GP, JWM, JF, LH, DXB, SJF, WLC

FROM: RAK

RE: Reagan's tug-of-war

___Meese. In a briefing at transition headquarters this morning, Ed Meese said that Reagan's cabinet nominees would not be announced until next week at the earliest--and possibly not until "the week after that or even the third week in December."

Earlier, Reagan was saying that the cabinet would be filled by late November or early December. "He [Reagan] is in the process of winnowing down the list and until we have specific announcements, we won't be having anything to say," said Meese. He says Reagan hasn't decided whether to announce the cabinet all at once or in groups.

In a session that generated little news, Meese also:

- * Declined to deny the Washington Post story that Reagan has already chosen some cabinet chiefs.

- * Said Anne Armstrong's decision not to accept a job in the Reagan administration "is one that we wish was otherwise. She would be a credit to any administration."

- * Said Reagan hopes to meet with the Congressional Black Caucus--at its request--during one of his next two trips to Washington.

- * "I think the transition is working very well. The coordination is unusually good. The organization is sound and the effort is going forward, if anything, ahead of

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schedule." Added that there have been a few minor cases of transition aides "overstepping their bounds."

* Said Reagan's interim foreign policy advisers are closely monitoring the hostage crisis and being briefed daily about the strife in Poland.

* Said the Reagan team hasn't talked much with congressional leaders about budget cuts, but "the principal advice [from Congress] has been to come in with enough of an approach to budget cutting so that we can make some inroads."

* Said the New Right conservatives are neither being forgotten or having undue influence on cabinet selection. "The selection is going to be made by one person and that is the President-elect."

* Asked about the possibility of an appointment for Phyllis Schlafly, said: "She's been a great supporter of ours and I hope she will be of some help."

* Said "no precise decision has been made whether to accelerate" the oil-price-decontrol schedule set by President Carter.

* Chafed at the suggestion that the kitchen cabinet has had undue influence in selecting cabinet candidates, and noted that Reagan added his own names to the list prepared by the kitchen cabinet.

John Lofton, The editor of the Conservative Digest and leader of the New Right Republicans has some juicy things to say.

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to say about possible cabinet nominees, all on the record:

"The greatest threat I see to the Reagan presidency is the possibility of loading it up with a lot of retreads and warmed-over Ford-Nixon people," says Lofton. "We're not saying the Ford-Nixon people are evil or the political enemy, but what it boils down to is that we won. It's nothing personal, but if Ford had won the nomination, I can't imagine him having Ronald Reagan's campaign manager as his chief of staff [a reference to Jim Baker] or loading up his administration with Reaganites."

The conservatives clearly don't like the notion that Reagan should reach out to moderates and others in forming his government.

Lofton—and the New Right conservatives generally—object to such people as:

- * William Casey, who Lofton says is "demonstrably unqualified to head the CIA."

- * William French Smith, who "would be far in over his head as attorney general." Naming either Smith or Casey to the cabinet would be "clearly cronyism" says Lofton.

- * Henry Kissinger and George Shultz. "The fact that they're high on each other is enough to deep-six both of them." The New Right will never forgive Kissinger, of course, for detente with the Soviets, and Kissinger's endorsement of Shultz is enough to disqualify Shultz in the eyes of the New Right.

- * Alexander Haig. A Kissinger clone, says Lofton. Haig

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was a protege of Kissinger's before ascending in the Nixon White House.

Lofton says Reagan must steer clear of "people who are top heavy with credentials but not necessarily loyal Reaganites."

Who do the conservatives want? William Simon seems to be the unanimous choice of nearly everyone. Lofton calls Simon a "bold-banner Reaganite." The New Right also is pushing Richard V. Allen (for secretary of state or national security adviser), William Van Cleave (head of Reagan's Pentagon transition team and top national-security adviser during the campaign), and Representative David Stockman (R-Mich.) to head OMB.

Richard Viguerie. The direct-mail expert and comrade in New Right struggle has some slightly more discreet things to say:

"We want to see solid Reaganites, people who are not necessarily convenient converts, people who have shared Reagan's views for 16 years, not just the last five months."

"The Ford-Push wing of the party is having a too dominant of a role in the candidate selection."

The conservatives, says Viguerie, also are worried that Reagan will select too many aged for the cabinet. "People in their mid-60s and 70s are not going to have bold ideas that will build a coalition for the next 50 years. We need bold innovators. I would like to see very, very few people

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their 60s."

Viguerie adds these names to the list supported by the
 right-wingers: John Connally, Phyllis Schlafly, Thomas
 Sowell (the economist.)

(END)

November 28, 1980

FROM: SJF - ^{WITH REAGAN}~~White House~~

TO: MLS, LT, JF, BFP, GP, DR, LH, DXB, JWM, DCB, TJF, JSL, SJF, RAK, PA, PGH

RE: Update on Reagan's Cabinet Selection

President-elect Ronald Reagan confirmed today that both William Simon and George Shultz have indicated they do not want to be considered for positions in the new cabinet. Reagan said that he had talked directly to Simon about the matter, but had yet to discuss it with Shultz. He added that he will soon be calling people to offer them jobs in the cabinet -- "if not over the weekend, ⁻⁻⁻ next week."

Reagan said he called Simon within the last two days after receiving a message "that he did not want to be considered for any job in government." He said he had been told by unnamed sources that Shultz "feels that way, too," and indicated he intends to discuss it with Shultz in the next few days.

Reagan did not say what positions the two men were being considered for. He said Simon "was very definitely a prospect in my mind." He added about Shultz: "He certainly was under consideration for several positions."

Reagan, who discussed the subject with reporters upon arrival in Los Angeles following his Thanksgiving vacation at his ranch near Santa Barbara, was asked if the decision of these experienced men not to serve posed problems for his administration. He replied that he was not concerned about the withdrawal of Simon and Shultz, because "what you ought to seek is a kind of healthy mix" between experienced and inexperienced people.

Reagan did not say why Shultz had withdrawn his name from consideration. He said that Simon had indicated he had already "had his chance in Washington." Speculation among Reagan aides is that Simon was disappointed that he was not being offered the kind of job he had wanted, either as defense or Secretary of State or as Treasury Secretary with the added responsibility of inflation czar.

(END - KH)