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**WHITE HOUSE  
OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
WORKSHEET**

☐ X - MEDIA  
☐ H - INTERNAL

**Name of Document:** BRIEFING PAPERS FOR  
PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULED  
APPOINTMENTS FOR

**Subject Codes:**

1) **Subject:** Interview with Marvin STONE,  
Editor of U.S. News and World Report

PR 007.01  
TR 058.  
PR 016.  
PU

2) Memo to the President regarding the  
political situation in Nevada

PL  
ST 028.

3) Fundraising event for Republican  
candidates in Nevada

PL 005.04  
PL 002

4) Fundraising reception for Chic  
HECHT and Peggy CAVNAR

**ROUTE TO:**

**ACTION**

**DISPOSITION**

| Office/Agency (Staff Name) | Action Code | Tracking Date YY/MM/DD | Type of Response | Code | Completion Date YY/MM/DD |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------|------|--------------------------|
| RMMATT                     | RSZ         | / /                    |                  |      | / /                      |

Referral Note: \_\_\_\_\_

THE SCHEDULE OF  
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN



Thursday, October 7, 1982

9:25 am      Depart White House for Trip to Nevada,      South Grounds  
                 California and Texas  
                 (See Separate Schedule)      (distributed previously)  
                 (Henkel)

Monday, October 11, 1982

8:10 pm      Return White House      South Grounds  
                 (Henkel)

SUPPLEMENTARY BRIEFING MATERIALS

Tab A      Interview with Marvin Stone (Speakes)  
Tab B      Nevada Political Overview (Rollins)  
Tab C      GOP Rally and Fundraiser in Reno (Rollins)  
Tab D      Fundraiser for Chic Hecht and Peggy Cavnar  
                 (Rollins)

UNP 10/6/82  
5:00 pm

A

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INTERVIEW WITH MARVIN STONE

DATE: Thursday, October 5, 1982  
PLACE: Air Force One  
TIME: Andrews AFB - Reno, Nevada  
(20 minutes)

FROM: Larry Speakes

I. PURPOSE

To be interviewed by Marvin Stone, Editor of U.S. News and World Report.

II. BACKGROUND

Mr. Stone wants to ask the President the kinds of questions their readers have been asking about the President, such as how he operates, whether he feels comfortable in the job, his working habits, and his philosophy of the job.

This will be for his weekly column, "The Editor's Page", for the October 25 issues, which comes out on October 18.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President  
Marvin Stone - Editor of U.S. News and World Report

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House photographer only

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

After brief introductions and pleasantries, the interview will take place.

*B*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 6, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ED ROLLINS *el*

SUBJECT:

NEVADA - POLITICAL BRIEFING

I. SUMMARY

Republican U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt is the dominant figure in Nevada politics today. Laxalt, a Nevada native, has served as Lieutenant Governor (1963-1967), Governor (1967-1971), and in the U.S. Senate since his election in 1974. Laxalt, while again serving as Reagan Campaign Chairman in 1980, was also re-elected to a second U.S. Senate term over Democrat Mary Gojack by a 59% to 37% margin. Both Laxalt and the President have favorable job performance ratings above 65% in Nevada, according to Frank Fahrenkopf, the state's Republican Chairman.

Chic Hecht, who served in the Nevada state Senate from 1967 to 1975, is the Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate in Nevada. He faces four-term incumbent Democrat U.S. Senator Howard Cannon who survived a bitter primary challenge from the state's lone U.S. House member, Democrat Jim Santini. Hecht, who did not file his Senate candidacy until July, upset businessman Rick Fore and three others to win the September 14th GOP primary.

Although Hecht trails Cannon by a 51% to 35% margin, according to a late September Lance Tarrance poll, the devisiveness of the Democrat primary and Cannon's vulnerability could pave the way to a Hecht upset over Cannon.

Republican incumbent Governor Robert List is facing an uphill battle to retain his seat. His Democrat challenger is state Attorney General Richard Bryan. List has alienated many Nevadans with his tax program (lowering property taxes and raising sales taxes). However, Bryan has failed to come forward with his own tax program which he had promised earlier in the campaign. An August Lance Tarrance poll showed Bryan with a 22-point lead over Governor List. In late September the Tarrance poll revealed that List had cut the deficit in half, and now trails Bryan by only a 49% to 38% margin. The race is expected to be very close.

Nevada gains a second U.S. Congressional District because of reapportionment. In the 1st District (Las Vegas), former Republican state Representative Peggy Cavnar upset Dr. Jay Lyman in the GOP primary, and is now mounting an aggressive campaign against Democrat former Lieutenant Governor Harry Reid. In the 2nd District, which takes in the remainder of the state, Barbara Vuconovich, a longtime former aide to Senator Laxalt, defeated five opponents to win the Republican nomination. She now faces Democrat Mary Gojack, a former state Senator and unsuccessful challenger to Senator Laxalt in 1980. The September Tarrance poll showed the Republican candidates in both districts trailing by 5 points.

In 1980 the Reagan-Bush ticket carried Nevada by an overwhelming 63% to 27% margin.



II. ELECTED OFFICIALS

GOVERNOR - Robert List - Republican - Elected in 1978

SENATOR - Paul Laxalt - Republican - Elected in 1974

SENATOR - Howard Cannon - Democrat - Elected in 1958

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - 0 Republicans 1 Democrat

III. THE STATE LEGISLATURE

UPPER HOUSE - 5 Republicans 15 Democrats

LOWER HOUSE - 14 Republicans 26 Democrats

IV. REPUBLICAN STATE PARTY OFFICIALS

REPUBLICAN STATE CHAIRMAN - Frank Fahrenkopf

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN - Ed Fike

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMAN - Eileen Schouweiler

REAGAN-BUSH STATE CHAIRMAN - Reese Taylor

V. DISCUSSION

A. THE U.S. SENATE RACE - 1982

In one of the most nationally prominent U.S. Senate races in Nevada's history, Republican former state Senator Chic Hecht is challenging four-term incumbent Democrat U.S. Senator Howard Cannon.

Senator Cannon barely survived a bitterly contested Democrat challenge from Nevada's lone U.S. House member Jim Santini. Santini, a conservative Democrat who supported much of the Administration's economic legislation during the 1981 session, attacked Cannon as a Senator "mired by the politics of the past." He accused Cannon of trying to influence voters with "outmoded pork

barrel" politics, and questioned how the Senator became a millionaire during his years of Senate service. Cannon, in turn, called the Santini accusations "lies, smears, and distortions." The Senator highlighted his Senate seniority as an irreplaceable asset, and constantly reminded the voters of the federal projects he has helped gain for Nevada. In the September 14 primary, Cannon defeated Santini by a 50% to 45% margin.

In the Republican primary, Chic Hecht, who did not enter the race until July, won the U.S. Senate nomination over early favorite Rick Fore and three other challengers. Hecht's victory is largely attributed to his close association with Senator Laxalt and the help given him by Lyn Nofziger. Hecht won 39% of the primary vote to Fore's 25%. His primary challengers have quickly rallied behind the GOP nominee and the Nevada Party remains solidly united behind Hecht.

Chic Hecht has lived in Las Vegas for more than 30 years where he became a self-made millionaire through diverse business enterprises, including clothing and department stores, banking and hotels. Hecht served two terms in the state Senate (1967-1975) and was the Republican minority leader during Paul Laxalt's term as Governor (1967-1971). Before settling in Nevada, Hecht spent 18 months in East Berlin during the late 1940s as a U.S. counter-intelligence agent.

Hecht is running an issue oriented campaign, based primarily on his support for the President's economic program. He claims that Cannon is a "budget buster." Cannon voted against tax-indexing and in favor of overriding the President's veto of the

supplemental appropriations bill.

Hecht is pursuing the "sage-brush rebellion" issue. Eighty-seven percent of Nevada is owned by the federal government, and Hecht advocates a move towards greater state autonomy in controlling these lands. Senator Cannon voted in favor of the 1976 Organic Act which tightened federal control over U.S. Government lands. Additionally, Cannon voted in favor of the Panama Canal Treaty, an issue which still disturbs many Nevadans.

Although Cannon defeated Santini in the primary, and Santini formally endorsed Cannon "as the Democrat's nominee," Hecht will likely benefit from disaffected Santini supporters. Republican State Chairman Frank Fahrenkopf reports that many former Santini supporters have contacted him, volunteering their support for Hecht. Hecht is also attracting financial support from business political action committees. Hecht will receive the maximum allowable contribution from the Republican Senatorial Committee, and the Hecht campaign should be well-financed.

A Lance Tarrance poll conducted just after the September 14 primary, showed Senator Cannon leading Hecht by a 51% to 35% margin. However, GOP officials in Nevada claim that the momentum is clearly behind Hecht.

#### B. THE GUBERNATORIAL RACE - 1982

Republican Governor Robert List, being challenged by Democrat state Attorney General Richard Bryan, faces an uphill fight in his battle for re-election to a second term.

List, a 46-year-old California native, served as a district attorney for four years before being elected Nevada's Attorney

General in 1970. After serving two terms, List was elected Governor in 1978, when two-term Democrat incumbent Governor Mike O'Callaghan decided not to seek re-election. As Governor, List has generally followed a conservative approach. He is a strong advocate of the Administration's New Federalism and he supports adoption of the Balanced Budget Amendment. He has reduced the state government's workforce by 1,200 positions.

List, however, is facing major problems because of his controversial tax program, passed two years ago, which reduced state property taxes and raised the state's sales tax by 2.25%. List claimed that the tax shift would save Nevadans millions of dollars in taxes, while shifting a greater tax burden on out-of-state tourists who would carry much of the sales tax burden. While the List program has restrained Nevada's tax burden, a drop-off in tourism has caused a tremendous shortfall in state revenues. State income from Nevada's gaming industry has also been less than projected, and the Democrats claim that List has created a state budget crisis.

Bryan, whose nomination was never in doubt, began an early spring campaign, attacking List's tax program. He vowed to present a tax plan of his own as the campaign progressed. Because of the hotly contested primary races for U.S. Senate, attention has only begun to focus on the gubernatorial race since the mid-September primary. In recent weeks media pressure has begun to bear down on Bryan, and the Democrat candidate has been forced to admit that he will be unable to present a major alternative tax program which he had previously promised to deliver. Governor List's campaign

immediately seized upon the Bryan failure, calling the Democrat challenger, "Bryan, the man with no plan."

List is taking the offensive against Bryan, charging the state Attorney General with inconsistency on issues such as the death penalty, pornography, and gun control. List is a strong advocate of greater "home rule" over federally owned lands - 87% of Nevada is owned by the federal government. Bryan has remained relatively quiet on the federal lands issue. List believes that the issues are on his side, and is conducting a campaign to better publicize his record as Governor, while demonstrating his challenger's inability to propose any viable alternatives to the state's problems.

A Lance Tarrance poll, completed last week, showed that the Governor has improved his position from an August deficit of 22 points and he now trails Bryan by 11 points - a 49% to 38% margin.

#### C. THE U.S. HOUSE RACES - 1982

Nevada has gained a second U.S. House seat because of reapportionment. The 1st District lies totally within Clark County, taking in all of Las Vegas. The 2nd District geographically takes in the remaining 95% of Nevada.

Republicans have placed their best hopes for a Nevada House victory on the 2nd District race. The Republican nominee is Barbara Vuconovich, who has served as an aide to Paul Laxalt since 1962. She resigned her position as manager of Senator Laxalt's Reno office last year to run for Congress. Vuconovich has lived in Reno for more than 30 years where she has operated a travel agency and a small business. She is a past President of the Nevada Federation of Republican Women.

Vuconovich's Democrat opponent is Mary Gojack, who served six years in the Nevada state Legislature, and challenged Senator Laxalt in the 1980 U.S. Senate race. Laxalt won by an impressive 59% to 37% margin. Gojack won the Democrat nomination over a crowded primary field which included her estranged husband.

In her congressional race, Vuconovich has the strong support of Senator Laxalt and state Republican officials. Without Las Vegas, this district is generally considered conservative territory. Although a recent Lance Tarrance poll showed Vuconovich trailing Gojack by 5 points - a 42% to 37% margin, Republican observers believe that Vuconovich has a very good chance of winning this seat.

In the 1st, Las Vegas dominated Congressional District, Democrat former Lieutenant Governor Harry Reid has long been considered the likely winner in November. He won the Democrat nomination with a strong 78% showing over three challengers.

However, the upset victory of former state Representative Peggy Cavnar in the Republican primary over Dr. Jay Lyman, has thrown a wild card into the race. Dr. Lyman had been supported in the primary by the state GOP and was well-financed.

Peggy Cavnar and her husband Sam, who was an unsuccessful candidate this year for the GOP U.S. Senate nomination, have long been involved in tax-reduction initiatives in the state. Mrs. Cavnar, a nurse by profession, served in the state legislature for one term, 1979-1981; she was defeated in her 1980 bid for the state Senate by 28 votes. Cavnar is running her campaign from a home-based headquarters, and is just beginning to raise funds.

However, her past political involvement has made her well-known in the Las Vegas area. Republican officials, who had all but written-off this Congressional seat, were surprised by the recent Lance Tarrance poll results which showed Cavnar trailing Reid by only 5 points - 48% to 43%.

VI. NEVADA - MISCELLANEOUS

POPULATION - 799,000

NICKNAME - The Silver State

MOTTO - All For Our Country

C



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 6, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ED ROLLINS *ER*

SUBJECT: ATTENDANCE AT GOP RALLY AND FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR  
REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES IN NEVADA  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1982  
RENO, NEVADA

I. PURPOSE

The GOP Rally and the fundraising reception are being held to raise both popular and financial support for Republican candidates in Nevada.

II. BACKGROUND

The GOP Rally in Reno is being held to raise public support for Republican incumbent Governor Bob List, who is facing a tough re-election challenge; Republican U.S. Senate nominee Chic Hecht, who is challenging Democrat incumbent U.S. Senator Howard Cannon; Barbara Vuconovich, who is seeking election to the U.S. House in Nevada's 2nd Congressional District; and, for the five other Republican candidates seeking statewide office this year in Nevada. The rally is being held in conjunction with the University of Nevada at Reno's Public Leadership Forum.

The proceeds from the fundraising reception at Rancho San Raphael will be divided between the campaigns of Governor List and U.S. Congressional candidate Barbara Vuconovich.

III. PARTICIPANTS

U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt

Governor Bob List

Frank Fahrenkopf, Republican state Chairman of Nevada

Chic Hecht, Republican nominee for U.S. Senate

Barbara Vuconovich, Republican nominee for U.S. Congress

Bill Boyd, Republican nominee for Lieutenant Governor

Belie Williams, Republican nominee for Secretary of State

Bryan McKay, Republican nominee for Attorney General

Darrell Daines, Republican nominee for Comptroller

Patty Kafferetta, Republican nominee for state Treasurer  
(daughter of Barbara Vuconovich)

RALLY: 5,000-7,000 people

RECEPTION: 100 guests at \$500 per person

IV. STAFF CONTACT

Ed Rollins

V. PRESS PLAN

A. RALLY

Open Press

B. RECEPTION

Closed Press

*D*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 6, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ED ROLLINS *ER*

SUBJECT: ATTENDANCE AT FUNDRAISING RECEPTION FOR CHIC HECHT  
AND PEGGY CAVNAR  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1982  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the fundraising reception is to raise funds for Republican Chic Hecht's U.S. Senate campaign and Peggy Cavnar's U.S. House campaign.

II. BACKGROUND

Republican U.S. Senate nominee Chic Hecht is challenging Democrat incumbent U.S. Senator Howard Cannon. Hecht is a 30-year resident of Las Vegas, where he has been a successful businessman. Hecht served in the state Senate from 1967 to 1975, and was the state Senate Minority Leader while Paul Laxalt was Governor.

Peggy Cavnar, the Republican U.S. House nominee in Nevada's 1st District (Las Vegas), faces Democrat former Lieutenant Governor Harry Reid. Cavnar served one term in the state Legislature (1979-1981). She lost a bid for the state Senate in 1980 by 28 votes.

III. PARTICIPANTS

U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt

Governor Bob List

Frank Fahrenkopf, Republican state Chairman of Nevada

Chic Hecht, Republican nominee for U.S. Senate

Peggy Cavnar, Republican nominee for U.S. Congress - 1st District

Barbara Vuconovich, Republican nominee for U.S. Congress -  
2nd District

Wayne Newton

100 guests at \$1,000 per person

IV. STAFF CONTACT

Ed Rollins

V. PRESS PLAN

Closed Press

VI. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

3:00p.m. The President arrives at fundraising reception for  
Chic Hecht and Peggy Cavnar  
The Home of Wayne Newton  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Senator Laxalt is introduced by Wayne Newton

The President is introduced by Senator Laxalt

The President makes brief remarks

3:20p.m. The President concludes remarks and departs