

*International  
Brotherhood  
of Electrical  
Workers*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Letters were written to:

Al Hardy, International Brother-  
hood of Electrical Workers

Clifford Gorsuch, National  
Association of Broadcast  
Employees and Technicians

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

5/18/69

Mr. Ziegler's office:

Attached is a copy of the memo I mentioned in my conversation last Friday. Mr. Whitehead asked me to find out if this has been taken care of -- and if the unions had had a reply.

Thanks so much.

Eva Daughtrey  
Rm. 103 - EOB  
Extension 2786

Attachment

Can't  
find —  
where to  
send a  
copy

5/16  
2:55  
make a y.

Ziegler's  
office  
will  
call



April 17, 1969

**MEMORANDUM FOR RON ZEIGLER**

In discussions with representatives from broadcast employees unions about problems in the communications industry, they have used the opportunity to raise an issue that I believe falls in your shop.

They are concerned about the use of Signal Corps (WHCA) employees and equipment rather than network employees in the setting up and operation of equipment for Presidential and Vice Presidential television coverage. They feel that this is a bad practice because of the unprofessional quality of the resulting program and claim the networks agree but are reluctant to raise the issue with you. For example, the wild noise in coverage of the inaugural address was attributed to WHCA use of Signal Corps microphones rather than the specially designed mikes provided by the network pool. The situation apparently grows out of personal preferences of President Johnson and the general unreliability of Signal Corps personnel.

It may well be that we should prefer to use the network pool if the quality would, in fact, be significantly improved and the President would thereby come across better. It certainly would seem to help relations with the TV and radio press. I suggested that there may be important security reasons for use of Signal Corps personnel, but I doubt that is so and think a more considered letter to the unions is in order since they appear to feel strongly about this.

Could you either take care of this matter or suggest an appropriate reply?

signed

- cc: Mr. Ellsworth
- Mr. Holgren
- Mr. Whitehead
- Central Files

Clay T. Whitehead  
Staff Assistant

CTWhitehead:ed

Meeting - Wednesday, April 16, 1969

Al Hardy, Director of Radio, TV and Recording Division,  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
Lawrence Rimshaw, Business Manager for Local Union 1200



*Int. Brotherhood  
of Elect.  
Workers*

May 23, 1969

Dear Mr. Hardy:

I have inquired about the matter we discussed at our meeting on April 16, regarding use of network equipment and crews, rather than White House Communications Agency equipment and personnel for Presidential television and radio appearances.

I am informed that this matter is under discussion with the networks, and I am sure they can give you an appropriate rundown on the status of these discussions.

Sincerely,

Clay T. Whitehead  
Staff Assistant

Mr. Al Hardy  
Director of Radio, TV and  
Recording Division  
International Brotherhood of  
Electrical Workers  
1200 15th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

cc: Mr. Flanigan  
Mr. Hofgren  
Mr. Whitehead ✓  
Mr. Rose  
Central Files

CTWhitehead:ed



IBEW

Johnson Admin  
WHCA / Sig Corps  
Equip & expertise (wired)

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FCC

competence of Commissioners  
license revocation - against  
ownership restraints, multi-media etc.  
qual of industry (Broadcasting)

Power industry  
Electronics