Letter #1 Debuty Letter April 1, 1971 Mr. George Herman President American Federation of Television & Radio Artists c/o CBS News 2020 M Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20016 Dear Mr. Herman: You are no doubt aware of the recent publication of the Ash Council's . recommendations for reforming the regulatory agencies (A New Regulatory Framework: Report on Selected Independent Regulatory Agencies by the President's Advisory Council on Executive Organization January 1971). The President has asked for my comments concerning those portions of the Report which relate to communications. I am writing to solicit . . your views on the same subject -- both to assist me in the formation of my recommendations and to enable me to summarize for the Fresident the general industry reaction. The Ash Council proposed only minimal change in communications regulation -- reducing the number of Federal Communications Commissioners from seven to five and reducing their terms of office from seven years to five years. I presume your comments will be directed principally to this item, but I welcome as well any other suggestions concerning the Federal regulatory structure in the communications field. Any comments you may have would be most helpful if received by Friday, April 16. Sincerely yours, Clay T. Whitehead AScalia:hmy cc: Mr. Whitehead - 2 NOTE: Above letter sent to Scalia Subi File people on attached list. Chron File

Letter#2

## OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

PIRECTOR

March 31, 1971

Mr. Vincent T. Wasilewski
President
National Association of Broadcasters
1771 N Street, N. W.
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Dear Mr. Wasilewski:

You are no doubt aware of the recent publication of the Ash Council's recommendations for reforming the regulatory agencies (A New Regulatory Framework: Report on Selected Independent Regulatory Agencies by the President's Advisory Council on Executive Organization, January 1971).

The President has asked for my comments concerning those portions of the Report which relate to communications. I realize that Peter Flanigan has already solicited your views, and I will have the benefit of any reply to that request. If, however, you have any more detailed comments relating specifically to the communications field, they would assist me in the formation of my recommendations and would enable me to summarize for the President the communications industry reaction.

The Ash Council proposed only minimal change in communications regulation—reducing the number of Federal Communications Commissioners from seven to five and reducing their terms of office from seven years to five years. I presume your comments will be directed principally to this item, but I welcome as well any other suggestions concerning the Federal regulatory structure in the communications field.

Any comments you may have would be most helpful if received by Friday, April 16.

Clay T. Whitehead

Sincerely yours

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Mr. George Herman
President

JAmerican Federation of Television &
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6/6 CBS News

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March 11, 1971 To: Nino/Bruce From: Tom I would like you to coordinate preparation of our comments -would like them to beffirst-rate. Please draft an outline in early April that we can talk about, or before, if you think it is useful. I would like one of you to touch base with Ink or his office and find out which of these other "numerous industry, professional, consumer, and other organizations and individuals" have been contacted from the communications industry, and then I would like them to consider a letter from me to an appropriate group of people specifically asking for their comments on communications aspects to be funneled in to the President. If so, we should get that done very promptly to give people time. GTWhitehead:ed/jm

## OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

5 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

Subject: Ash Council recommendations for regulatory agencies

As you know, the President recently released the Ash Council's "Report on Selected Independent Regulatory Agencies" accompanied by a statement urging vigorous public discussion of its contents and submission of comments and criticisms from all those concerned by April 20, 1971.

To facilitate the Administration's evaluation of the information received and preparation of any needed additional materials, I am requesting that you consider the contents and implications of this Report and forward your views and other comments to this Office. In addition to comment on the specific findings and proposals of the Report, you may also want to include consideration of:

- other desirable changes in regulatory structure, procedure or policy
- . significant improvements which could be made within the present regulatory framework
- . illustrative experiences involving problems with the present regulatory process
- . the degree of current public confidence in the regulatory process

Comments on the Ash Council report are also being solicited from numerous industry, professional, consumer, and other organizations and individuals, and an effort will be made to review all the information received in formulating any final Administration proposals.

You or your staff may wish to consult regarding this matter with Mr. Dwight A. Ink, Assistant Director.

GEORGE P. SHULTZ

Lose P. Shurey

DIRECTOR