

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 12, 1974

MEMORANDUM TO THE FILE

FROM: Clay T. Whitehead

SUBJECT: Transition Team interaction with the White House Staff
on substantive policy matters

1. Transition Team should not allow itself to become, or be seen by Congress and the agencies, as a "fix-it" group.
2. Any serious problems the group perceives as to how the White House Staff or OMB are handling specific matters will be discussed at the 7:45 staff meeting. Based on that discussion, Mr. Rumsfeld will raise the items with the President. If the President agrees that work needs to be done to achieve the "Ford Imprint," Mr. Rumsfeld will communicate this back to the Team for appropriate action.
3. The same procedure outlined in Item 2 above applies to handling of positive initiatives the Team wishes to suggest to the President.
4. The principal contact between the Team and the rest of the Government on these matters will be between Mr. Whitehead and Ken Cole, Executive Director of the Domestic Council. It is important that the group not interact broadly with the White House Staff, OMB, and the agencies in following up on any of these items. We will rely on the Domestic Council staff coordinating process to implement whatever it is that the President has directed. Similarly, our point of contact on economic matters will be Sid Jones in Mr. Rush's office, and Mr. Seidman will have responsibility for that liaison.