

September 23, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO:

JACK MARSH  
DON RUMSFELD  
DICK CHENEY

FROM:

RUSS ROURKE

I have spoken with Roy Mesker (Subcommittee Staff Director) re the attached correspondence between Chairman Dave Henderson and Jim Wilderotter. As you know, the Committee is attempting, among other things, to get witnesses in order to explore the operation of the "special referral unit" at HUD. While Wilderotter's refusal to appear did not meet with any violent reaction by Mesker, it did give rise to other significant questions. Mesker is now concerned that Jim Lynn might also use one of the two hats he wears as the basis for similar refusal to testify.

Secondly, and perhaps more importantly, Mesker advised me on an informal basis that what the Committee is really after is the "core of the problem", viz., the operating personnel "who were issuing these directives from the White House. Mesker indicated that "since it is the White House personnel operation that we are really trying to analyze, only people like Jerry Jones and John Vickerman can tell us about that operation during the time period with which we are concerned". Naturally, I was completely noncommittal on this unsolicited offering by Mesker, since the only purpose of my call was a courtesy to Mesker and Dave Henderson. I thought, however, that it might be helpful for you to give some advance thought to this prospective problem.

RAR:cb

cc: PBuchen ✓

