

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DON RUMSFELD

FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *M.F.*

The situation involving the House Select Intelligence Committee (Pike Committee) continues to deteriorate. House Parliamentarian Bill Brown advised Charlie Leppert today that he feels a serious confrontation is coming unless the lines of communication are kept open and accommodation reached soon. Brown did not indicate what form he expects the confrontation to take, but I learned yesterday and it was confirmed today that Jerry Zeifman, former counsel for the House Judiciary Committee who had a major role in the impeachment proceedings, has flown in from the west coast where he is now teaching to handle the Pike Committee action involving possible contempt and court initiatives on the classified documents controversy.

I had a long conversation with Bob McClory yesterday and had Charlie Leppert visit him again today and McClory is clearly lined up with Chairman Pike and the Democrats against the White House.

McClory advises me that the worst thing we can do is oppose the committee, that we should cooperate fully, and he has met again with the four Republican Members of the committee who all agree that the White House should agree to the procedure adopted by the committee for the handling of classified documents.

McClory has mentioned again to both myself and Charlie that he and the other Republicans on the committee proposed the new procedure with the understanding that it would be acceptable with the White House per McClory's conversations with Buchen and Hills.

I questioned McClory closely on this and he concedes that although the conversations were not that specific, he felt he had a general understanding that the White House would support what he was recommending to the full committee.

Max L. Friedersdorf Files: Subject Series, b. 10, 4; "CIA Investigations (2)"
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We have absolutely no base of support in the entire committee and I believe that both Jack Marsh and Charlie Leppert agree with me that the situation is grave and a confrontation seems imminent.

cc: Philip Buchen
Jack Marsh

VH: Max Friedersdorf (WH liaison w/ Congress) - Donald Rumsfeld (asst to
the president)

Sept. 23, 1975

re dispute w/ HSC over declassification of documents



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