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MEMORANDUM

TO: Ziegler, Haldeman, Mitchell,
Woods & Harlow

FROM: John Ehrlichman

RE: INAUGURATION

DATE: November 21, 1968

This is the first of a series of semi-annual bulletins on the subject of Inauguration plans.

The Inauguration consists of three or four days of events climaxed at noon Monday, January 20th, with the Inauguration ceremony on the back porch of the capital building, followed by a parade to the White House where the new President and Vice President review, from a specially built stand, the passing parade.

Beginning the previous Friday, the Citizens Inauguration Committee have scheduled various receptions honoring the nation's Governors, distinguished "ladies", and possibly the Vice President-Elect. The Inauguration committee is chaired by J. Willard Marriott of Washington, D.C.

The swearing-in ceremonies at the capital are in the exclusive domain of the Joint Congressional Inaugural Committee chaired (as a result of the Republican victory) by Senator Everett Dirksen. This is exclusively a congressional show. Mark Trice, Secretary to the senatorial minority is executive director on behalf of the Joint Congressional Inaugural Committee.

Physical arrangements for the Inauguration have been locked in for months and the various stands, seats and camera platforms have nearly been completed. In our opinion, after inspection, the physical arrangements are unsatisfactory, but it would appear that we have virtually no control over the situation. For example, the television platform affords a straight-on shot of the Inaugural speakers. Behind them is a banked array of dignitaries, all of whom will be visible to the viewers.

TICKETS

A total of some 16,500 seats are provided by the physical arrangements. Roughly 1,300 of these will be allocated to the President-Elect and 400 will be allocated to the Vice President-Elect. The press has preferred seating immediately in front of the speakers' stand and each press man is provided with guest tickets for his

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friends. Each member of the House and Senate receives preferred seating to the right and left of the speaker's stand and each is provided with extra tickets, 7 in the instance of a member of the House and 10 tickets for members of the Senate. The (downtown) Inauguration Committee (Bob McCune, Executive Director), will be allocated a block of tickets in order to supply the various citizens organizations, Republican organizations, finance people and Nixon/Agnew citizen groups. As nearly as I can estimate from past performance, this block will approximate 3,000 tickets.

EVENTS

Maurice Stans is planning a "victory dinner" at which there will be some talent of the George Murphy variety and money will be raised. This will be on Saturday night.

On Sunday afternoon receptions will be held for Governors, Ladies, and perhaps the Vice President-Elect. On Sunday, also, the Washington National Symphony will present a concert which may feature the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

On Monday, the 20th, the Inauguration ceremonies at the capital at noon will be followed by various luncheons in the capital building for the President and Vice President and immediate platform guests, a luncheon for the cabinet, a separate luncheon for the Governors, etc.

Transportation by bus will be available to move White House staff and others from the capital to the White House to view the parade.

The parade will commence after lunch at the capital and will move down Pennsylvania Avenue past the White House reviewing stand.

Immediately following the parade, there may be a reception for dignitaries at the White House. Monday night Inaugural balls will be held at five or six ballrooms. At present it is anticipated that the attire for the Inauguration balls will be black tie.

On Tuesday morning, Mr. & Mrs. Nixon propose to hold a reception in the White House for campaign staff personnel and their families, and Mr. Mitchell's campaign organization should immediately commence the preparation of a guest list for this event in order that printed invitations may go forward within the next couple of weeks.

We are accepting nominations for soloists (man and woman), Catholic Priest, Protestant Minister, Rabbi and Greek Orthodox Priest for the Inaugural ceremonies.

Some thought should also be given to which Bible should be used during the ceremony.

More later.

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