

March 21, 1970

**MEMORANDUM FOR**

**JOHN EHRLICHMAN  
BOB HALDEMAN**

I read this over the phone to Dr. Moynihan in Cambridge this morning and he asked that you be sent a copy with the following note:

"I don't object to White House staff people lying about me -- as in the reference to my leaking those memoranda and the Urban Affairs Council minute. Lies at least are purposeful.

"But I do get alarmed when fantasy enters, as with the matter of Goldberg and Udall on the Population Commission.

"There is no great harm in having a few character assassins on the White House staff, but we should keep the number of madmen to a minimum."

**Arthur M. Klebanoff  
(for Dr. Moynihan)**

**Attachment: Jack Anderson column, "Moynihan Has White House Agog," Washington Post, March 21, 1970.**

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# Moynihan Has White House Agog

By Jack Anderson

President Nixon's one-man Irish Mafia, Pat Moynihan, has the White House all stirred up.

The public airing of his private memo, suggesting that the Nixon administration treat Negroes with "benign neglect," is merely the latest in a series of provocations.

Whenever two or more White House aides get together, they invariably get around to discussing what should be done about Moynihan.

Some aides think he should be fired forthwith. Others, fearful of the memoirs he could write, believe it's safer to keep him inside the White House.

The Moynihan problem has been taken up with the President himself by Bob Haldeman and John Ehrlichman, the two humorless efficiency experts who run the White House staff. But Moynihan always has been able to shrug off their accusations with a fast quip and a bit of Irish blarney.

His grim colleagues have accused Moynihan of keeping two sets of minutes of the Urban Affairs Council meetings and leaking excerpts embarrassing to the President.

One quote, which aides say was taken out of context, has the President instructing Secretary of Agriculture Cliff Hardin: "You can say that this

administration will have the first complete, far-reaching attack on the problem of hunger in history. Use all the rhetoric, so long as it doesn't cost any money."

## Moynihan's Patronage

Other aides have also been aghast at Moynihan's patronage. He has planted his own people throughout the White House, many of them too liberal for the comfort of the stern GOP loyalists who now inhabit the place.

The latest is James Rosa-pepe, a young militant, who got a job through Moynihan as administrative aide with the President's Conference on Youth. Harry Flemming, the White House personnel boss, belatedly discovered that Rosa-pepe is one of those youthful dissenters whom Vice President Agnew has been denouncing.

Moynihan's colleagues in the White House also set up a howl over his recommendation that ex-Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall and Ex-United Nations Ambassador Arthur Goldberg be appointed to the President's population panel. Both belong to the Kennedy wing of the Democratic Party.

To some extent, Haldeman and Ehrlichman succeeded in isolating Moynihan for awhile. Then his controversial memo broke into print, and he is now back in the center of the

White House whirl. They suspect privately that he leaked his own memo to the press, indirectly at least, to focus attention upon himself.

## Whitewash Prevented

Pressure on the Pentagon not to whitewash the military brass in its investigation of the Mylai massacre came from President Nixon himself.

Ever since the scandal broke into the headlines, the President has insisted privately that there be no cover-up. The White House warned last December that the Army might try to make a scapegoat of Lt. William Calley.

"Orders to wipe out the village did not come from Calley but from higher up..." we reported flatly. "The hamlet was a Vietcong stronghold nicknamed Pinkville, which U.S. troops had cleaned out on two previous occasions. Someone at higher headquarters decided that the third time should be the last and issued orders to destroy the village."

The White House questioned us closely about the story and expressed concern over the possibility that the Pentagon might try to protect the higher-ups. It was the President's quiet insistence that finally brought the charges against two generals and 12 other officers.

## Conflict of Interest

The Federal City Council is

Washington's most prestigious civic organization, headed by former Secretary of the Army Stephen Ailes. The organization's main effort in recent years has been promotion of a badly needed metropolitan subway system for the traffic-choked nation's capital.

Most of the council's work is done by Yates Cook, a capable urban affairs expert who is its \$37,000-a-year executive vice president. Without the council's knowledge, however, Cook has been doing a lucrative business on the side for Marsh & McLennan, Inc., a huge national insurance firm which is trying to land the subway system's business.

Cook acknowledged to this column that he had been getting \$1,000-a-month since October, 1968, as a "public relations consultant" for the firm.

"The only thing I do for them is advise them how you do not operate in Washington," he said.

Marsh & McLennan's president Henry Otis said, however, that Cook was hired to help the firm land the subway insurance businesses, which is expected to total between \$50 million and \$80 million in premiums.

Note: The council's illustrious members, who give their time as a public service, were unaware of Cook's conflict.