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RUSSELL T. TOWNSELEY
PUBLISHER
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President Ford --2--

I met with many members of the visiting press including the major networks, wire services and newspapers. I found myself spending more time trying to present the Midwestern viewpoint about which our people feel strongly. I firmly believe that in some measure we countered preconceived opinions. We opened out files, helped provide interviews with Bob's friends in Russell, made our plant and its facilities available and worked with these people to whom a small town remains a mystery.

There are simply no skeletons left lying about by Bob Dole or members of his family, a fact the Eastern Press finds hard to accept. I've had 29 years longer than they have to know and understand Bob Dole. I believe we have helped convince some of them that the Ford-Dole Team is what it appears to be--and more.

Your note of thanks which I received Sept. 14, makes the time and effort even more worthwhile.

When Bob Dole broke down momentarily during his talk, I was taking notes. The sudden, awesome silence brought an overpowering feeling of terror to me. I have "heard" that kind of silence only a few times in my newspaper career. It is generally associated with a crowd and sudden tragedy.

I looked up to see you come to your feet and load in the applause which snapped the tension and brought the crowd alive. I understood the power of the moment. For Bob, it was a meeting on his home ground, only a few feet from the office where he was county attorney, a son of faces surrounded him and his father, for the first time, was not among them.

President Ford recognized the situation and turned it into a victory. I can never forget the impact.

We have one voice but it is, and will continue to be, working for Success in November--and through the years ahead.

Sincerely yours
Russell T. Townsley

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, Wednesday, October 20, 1976

Dole pressured Nixon to accept the milk money



by Jack Anderson

WASHINGTON — Evidence still buried in Watergate files reveals that Sen. Robert Dole, the GOP vice presidential candidate, pressured the Nixon White House on behalf of dairymen to accept \$2 million in milk money.

Dole was fully aware at the time that the dairymen were lobbying the White House for substantial milk subsidies and other favors that eventually cost the taxpayers millions. The subsidies helped bring about President Nixon's resignation, led to ex-Treasurer Sec. John Connally's trial and acquittal, and smeared both Democrats and Republicans with charges of accepting dirty money.

Dole's part in the scandal, however, has remained virtually unexplored. But now, we have unearthed two White House memos which show Dole twisted the arm of White House staff chief H. R. (Bob) Haldeman on behalf of the dairymen.

The crucial memo, stamped "Confidential" and dated Feb. 2, 1971, is from Haldeman to White House aide Chuck Colson. It tells how Dole tried to get the milk money flowing.

Haldeman confided in the memo that Dole, then the Republican national chairman, "sent-

me a note at the Cabinet meeting (in early 1971) regarding the milk producers and apparently he is being pressured by them. "They have told him that they are unable to work out a means of getting their activity going regarding their support for us. Would you please get in touch with Dole and follow up on this?"

THE DOLE NOTE, according to one of those with knowledge of its contents, said, in effect, "Get off the stick. Why can't they (the milk producers) find anyone (at the White House) to deal with?"

In addition to penning the note, Dole "went back and forth . . . on behalf of the milk producers" with White House aides, according to a White House official who was involved in the milk deal.

The Haldeman memo to Colson, however, got an unenthusiastic reception. Colson had already handled a \$2 million offer from the milk producers for Nixon's re-election. The dairymen coupled their offer with a request for important favors.

Fearing that the offer smacked of bribery, Colson sent a memo to White House lawyer

made to reverse a ruling against the milk subsidies increase and grant it.

After the meeting, the administration granted a hefty price increase to the milk industry. Nixon friends outside the White House set up committees through which the milk producers funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Ironically, Dole himself received \$15,000 from the milk producers in 1973. His return all of it when the scandal broke. But at the time, reporters were searching for bigger fish to fry, and Dole's role in the 1971 events was all but overlooked.

WE TRIED TO TALK with Dole, but he didn't return our calls. However, a spokesman said that Dole "wasn't involved in the milk price decisions," and made at most only a few appeals to the White House.

Footnote: Dole's Democratic counterpart Sen. Walter Mondale (D-Minn.) was also linked to the scandal. A milk lobbyist said Mondale aide solicited him for \$25,000 in 1971. Mondale denies knowledge of the solicitation, but concedes he got \$5,000 from milk producers for a fund-raising dinner.

John Dean and talked with Haldeman about the milk deal.

In his Feb. 9, 1971, reply to Haldeman, Colson said, "The note which Bob Dole gave you at the Cabinet meeting is the same problem I discussed with you in your office a few weeks ago."

"We don't have anyone who can handle support for us from outside interest groups like the milk producers . . . I feel that it is terribly important that I not be personally involved (no one here should be)." We were told, however, that Dole kept up the pressure.

THE SCENT OF READY CASH was too much for the White House. At a secret meeting headed by Nixon himself, the decision was

HUTCH NEWS 10-21-76

Dole showered with peanuts

LUBBOCK, Tex. (UPI) — Sen. Robert Dole Wednesday criticized a new, unpublished Jimmy Carter magazine interview which Dole described as showing "a disagreeable habit of smearing prominent Americans."

The Republican vice presidential candidate told a Texas Tech University audience that the Ladies Home Journal has prepared an interview, a copy of which he has obtained, in which Carter talks about former President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Dole said the article, to be published shortly, will quote Carter as saying: "for unlike Lyndon Johnson, the man you know so well, I feel sure about myself deep inside."

"Johnson never felt secure inside, especially around the Eastern Establishment such as the professors, experts, writers and media people and that's why they got him in the end."

"I don't feel ill at ease in a Harvard professor's house or when I'm talking with the experts on foreign policy or on economics when I'm with the leader of any group."

An advance copy of the magazine confirmed Dole's quotes from an article written by Doris Kearns Goodwin, who wrote a book on Johnson.

Dole said Carter had criticized Johnson in the Playboy magazine interview and then apologized to his widow, Lady Bird Johnson.

"So much for the value of Mr. Carter's apologies and his contrition over being unkind to others," said Dole.

"Instead of passing out campaign buttons, Carter ought to pass out notes of apology," Dole said. "They would be a more fitting symbol of his campaign and they have about the same value as a campaign button."

Dole's attack on Carter came after two days of wooing Texas Republicans still resentful of Ronald Reagan's loss to President Ford. The Kansas senator also directed his campaigning toward Mexican-Americans in South Texas.

He visited a Mexican market in San Antonio where he was invited to break the traditional Mexican pinata with a stick. The paper-thin pinata was shaped like a donkey and spewed peanuts in the shell when Dole burst it.

RR 10-21-76

Dole Plans Are Still Uncertain

It appears that Sen. Bob Dole's plans for election day still include a visit to Russell—to vote. There is no assurance that he will be able to spend election night here.

Dave Owen, Dole's campaign director, in the Washington Ford-Dole headquarters, told The News Tuesday noon that tentative plans are being made for Dole to come to Russell long enough to vote Nov. 2. Owen will accompany Dole, according to present plans.

"There is nothing certain about the trip to Russell," Owen said. "We won't know for sure until it is about time to make the trip."

Dole, Republican candidate for vice-president, told his mother, Mrs. Bina Dole, Russell, over the weekend that he is going to try to get to Russell to vote.

"When I come to Russell," Dole said to his mother who was with him on a speaking platform in Wichita, "she generally feeds me."

If, for example, Dole comes to

Russell to vote Nov. 2, the stop would take from three to four hours from the time his plane lands at Salina, the nearest practical airport for the jet, until he could return to the plane to go to another city—or to spend election night with President Gerald Ford campaign personnel.

The News had placed many calls in regard to Dole's plans for election day. Information, which simply isn't available at this time, will be reported when decisions are made and plans confirmed.

RPN 10-21-76

'Dole Was Just an Average Kid': Luthi

WOODWARD, Okla. (UPI) — Republican vice presidential nominee Robert Dole was introduced by Sen. Henry Bellmon, R-Okla., during a recent campaign appearance as the "world's greatest debater." Jack Luthi disagrees.

Luthi, who is city manager of this west Oklahoma city, was Dole's high school debate coach in 1939 and 1940 at Russell, Kan. He said Dole was just average.

"He was a member of our debate squad, but he was never on the first team," Luthi said Wednesday. "He was not outstanding . . . just an average kid."

Luthi said Dole "has improved, but his style hasn't changed a bit. He was very witty, very quick on the comeback."

Luthi said he did not see Dole's debate "with Democratic vice presidential nominee Walter Mondale, but his wife did and she thinks Dole won."

"Of course, she may be prejudiced — we're both registered Republicans."

Topeka Daily Capital
Thursday, October 21, 1976 5

Dole blasts new Carter interview

LUBBOCK, Tex. (UPI) — Sen. Robert Dole Wednesday criticized a new, unpublished Jimmy Carter magazine interview which Dole described as showing "a disagreeable habit of smearing prominent Americans."

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