

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Tuesday, March 3, 1964

This morning about 11, Katie Lochheim came for a cup of coffee, bringing a bound copy of the Ladies Home Journal, with her article about me. It's really quite well done - more image than fact, I'm afraid - but a very good image, if I can live up to it. It is actually based on the years that Katie has known me, the work she's seen me do, and all the articles that she's read about me. I did not sit down with her and have a lengthy talk and it would probably <sup>I have</sup> profited therefrom, I think. At any rate, it gave me a good opportunity to thank Katie.

Since Katie's business is being on the desk at the State Department, entertaining interesting women, who come over from other countries, and working with women VIP's over here, I thought it would be fun, to have, at the same time, Doris O'Donnell, who is an interesting young woman herself. In her very early 30's, working for U. S. Information Service, in Rome, <sup>in</sup> that wicked and delightful city, they tell me. She's Doris Gleason's <sup>Gleason's</sup> daughter; she'd been with us very much, and very helpfully, when we were in Rome and had taken us to the Baptist orphanage there. She's leading the sort of life I would have liked to have led when I emerged from College years ago, if I hadn't gotten married instead.

I had hoped the girls would be with us because I'd like to expose them to somebody like her. But Lynda Bird brought back a terrible cold from her trip to Florida, and so she's just impossible today, yesterday, and I hope will be well tomorrow.

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In the afternoon, I put in one of those long two hours <sup>^</sup>getting dressed up in a red evening dress and going downstairs, first to the Red Room and where I do think it looks beautiful; and then into the Blue Room, posing for Vogue magazine. The picture will be in color - a cover picture perhaps - and it simply devours time.

Then I rushed back upstairs and changed into a cocktail dress for the fourth of our series of six receptions for the House of Representatives.

There were about 151 this time, we met them, as usual, in the Blue Room. It was fun to see Mrs. Tom Abernathy, of Mississippi; our children used to go to the cotillion together. The Linley Beckworth's were there young bachelor, from Texas; and that handsome and interesting/John Brannemus of Indiana. Henry Gonzalez, actually made it, but on his own time schedule, about an hour late.

I reminisced with the Porter Hardys about Lynda Bird, and when she was queen of the Azalea Festival. They still call her "our queen". And fortunately I had out the album of the Azalea Festival upstairs, so Mrs. Hardy got a good look through it. And there was Mrs. Ralph Harvey, from my International group; and Mrs. Paul Jones from my 81st Club; and Torbett MacDonald - I remember how much trouble we had to get him to kill a deer when he was down at the ranch with President Kennedy. We all but had to tie the deer under a tree. And Congressman John Pilcher, of Georgia - Thomasville, in fact. He and I reminisced about <sup>Aeneas</sup>~~Aeneas~~ Africanus - and

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he told me that there was a rose festival there, one that had been going on -  
Oh, for many, many decades, and they would like to have one of my daughters -  
he was kind of vague about which one - come down and be queen. If it were  
only possible for Luci Baines to be, I'd love for her to be, because she needs  
all the bolstering up she can get.

It was particularly pleasant to see the Ray Roberts from Texas. I like  
the ties that bind the NYA, and that reminds me of how sorry I am that I  
couldn't get in touch with Jeannette Deason when she was here briefly on  
Sunday. I tried to, through the C. P. Little's, but failed all day long.  
Paul Rogers and his pretty young Becky were there and also the Carlton  
Sickles, whom Luci did some campaigning for.

The very sturdy young Bob Taft's from Ohio, who probably have  
aspirations to go on higher this fall; most especially was I glad that Libby  
and Clark Thompson - because they like parties so much and they're so  
good at them - could be there. And Mab Wright, who must have lost all  
of 20 pounds, and looked very glamorous. She and Jim were there. (And  
while I'm on that subject, I might as well ~~as~~ observe that the Joe Kilgore's  
were absent, though invited. This is the second time, they have been  
absent.) And Jane and John Young wound up the group of Texans.

most  
?

The evening followed the now-established routine, with, I think,  
equally good results. Eloise and Homer were very helpful, as were all  
the large coterie of handsome aides, mostly from the Air Force.

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Lyndon had requested that they all be over six feet and they liked to dance. —  
Especially with the larger ladies.

Afterwards I got <sup>in</sup>numerable compliments on how good the briefing was, especially Secretary Rusk and Lyndon.

Cocktail hour and dancing, <sup>2</sup>waxed later and later, finally I brought it to an end with a medley, including Goodnight Ladies, at about a quarter of nine, which meant the Thornberry's, Lyndon and I, sat down to dinner table about 9:30.