

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Tuesday, February 2, 1965

Page 1

Lyndon and I had breakfast in bed and then I spent the morning cleaning my desk. Whatever happens when I am not here!

Then Barbara Ward, ~~and~~ (Lady Jackson) arrived around noon, just in time to sit down to lunch with Lyndon, Clark Clifford, Abe Fortas and me.

Barbara was ecstatic about the plans for beautification. She told us she had listeded to the Inaugural speech for President Tubman of Liberia, on the radio, of course, there's no TV. She described him as quite a guy, it all added up to a feeling of what my own sympathies are, that he is the most seasoned, reliable, stable of the leaders in that troubled continent. She's invited for the dinner tonight and is our house guest.

After lunch, I went down to the library for the presentation of a White House Guide book, translated into seven languages for foreign visitors. It was presented by Mrs. Dudley Owen, (see next page)

2/2/65

- 2 -
6 -

"THIS"

Chairman of ~~this~~ Committee, The Hospitality and Information Service, and appeared in Arabic, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Russian and Spanish. With Mrs. Owen was a Mrs. Song from the Korean Embassy, who is in an international group that used to be mine. We had last been together at lunch, at Mrs. Gerald Ford's in the back yard by the swimming pool.

Before ~~4:00~~ November 22nd. And there was a young boy named Gee from one of the African Republics, ^{of} French speaking one, who had used the guide book in French and a Mrs. Nadall of the Embassy of Argentina who had used it in Spanish. ^{TP} And Mrs. Peter Bing who had taken a trip through the White House seven times, writing down copious notes on the way, ^{then} getting them translated into all the languages, ^{its} ~~so~~ all the service of ^{THIS} ~~this~~, so that foreign visitors to the White House can really learn more about us ^{than} ~~and~~ just what their eye can take in. ~~And~~ ^{then} there in the group were two old friends, the Bruce Lansdales, from the American Farm School in Thessalonica, Greece. They brought me a framed picture in Tile of what the LBJ family would look like in Greek costume. ~~all~~ ^{TP} The rest of the day was taken up with beauty parlor, and studying the lists of those who ^{would} ~~had~~ come to the dinner in honor of the Vice President, the Chief Justice and the Speaker, and going over the little introduction I would make

2/2/65
3
- 7 -

of the Hume Cronins for entertainment. I had my hair done up on the top of my head, probably the last ^{hurray} ~~funer~~ for a while, since it must be cut. And wore my green chiffon ^{flubstar} ~~flubstar~~. Bess and I had worked out the list of people who came upstairs in a different and intimate fashion this time. The Vice President and Mrs. ^{Humphrey} ~~MacCormick~~ ^{and} ~~and~~ ~~and~~ none of their children could be here, and what a shame. We had asked their governor, Mr. Rol^{young} ~~love~~ and his wife, a Texan, Speaker and Mrs. MacCormick, had as ^{their} ~~his~~ special guest, his nephew, Eddie, and his young wife, a very attractive and handsome couple, ^{He} ~~who~~ told someone tonight that he plans to run for Governor of Massachusetts next time up. He is the apple of the Speaker's eye, and for Chief Justice and Mrs. Warren, the John Daly's, she's one of their daughters, and another daughter, Mrs. ^{Clement} ~~Klunenti~~ ^P There was no Robin and Angie ~~the~~ [#] first time I have felt the gap of their absence. Then we went downstairs, the eight of us. Hubert and I following Lyndon and Muriel, to the thrilling Hail to the Chief, had our ^{pic} ~~pe~~ictures made at the steps and into the East Room where eight in line made a great difference in the time that it took. There were about 178 people to file by. [#] More than any other dinner, this is a meeting of the government and for that reason a family affair. For the Chief Justice we had asked all

2/2/65

4
- 8 -

the Court, and the Blacks, the Douglass^s, the Clark^s, Justice Harlan alone, the Brennans^s, the Stewarts, the Whites, the Goldbergs were there. And also I'm delighted to say former Justice and Mrs. Reed.^P The Cabinet was somewhat ~~desimated~~^{decimated} by the virus, ^WWith McNamara, Rusk and Dillon being in bed, the Postmaster General and Mrs. ^GKrunowski, indefatigable Udall^s, gay young Freeman^s, and the Wirtz^s were there. And the Celebreezes, ^Ahe is just fresh up from the flu. The newest member, Attorney General Katzenbach and his wife, ^Aand all the leadership of the House and Senate in full panoply. — Senator Carl Hayden, President Pro Tem ^P~~of the Senate~~, Majority Leader Mike Mansfield and Russell Long and George Smathers. And Senator and Mrs. Everett McKinley Dirksen, affiable Tom and Betty Kuchel. Mannie Sellers, Dean of the House, Gerald Ford and Charley Halleck, present and ^A~~recently~~^{recently} defeated. And Les/~~XXXX~~^{XXXX}, and the Hale Boggs, and Carl Albert, and then a good deal of staff. ^PFrom the press there ^{was}~~was~~ the blond Otis Chandlers of Los Angeles Times, our old friends, ^Athe Ep Hoyts of the Denver Post, the young Arthur Sal^zberg^s of the New York Times, ^P~~the~~ Texas representation, interesting variety, the young and attractive James Ling of Dallas, who made a lot of money in a short career. The young and attractive ^GGerry Williams of Austin, ^Ahe's a professor

2/2/65 - 5 -
at the University and she is a lawyer also, and a
capable Democratic politician, the sort you have on
your list for any women appointees. And Dean Story^{Bo}
of Dallas, long time worker in the vineyard of peace
and justice in our racial relations.[#] And among old
friends, the Ed Weisl^os of New York and how glad I
am that Alice will face what must be a hurdle of
any social entertainment. ^{- she's just had nose & facial operation -} Abe Fortas alone, and
the Clark Cliffords, Waggoner Carr, Attorney General
of Texas, was there also. And Because I have been
reading so much about the beautification plans of
our Administration I was very pleased to meet Charles
Har^ar of the Chairman of the Task Force on Beauty.
He is from Harvard Law School. And, of course, the
Laure^ance Rockefeller^s. ^{The} first name you turn to
when recreation or beautification is mentioned.[#] Since
the Chief Justice was one of the honorees, there was
some top brass from the world of law. Dean and Mrs.
Irwin Griswold of the School of Law of Harvard; Dean
and Mrs. Page Keaton of the School of Law of the
University of Texas; and Dean and Mrs. Frank Newman
of the School of Law of the University of California.
David Merrick, Producer of Hello Dolly, and also of
next week's show, ^{The} Roar of The Crowd, the Smell of
the Grease Paint, coming to the National, was among
the guests. And also the Jackie Robinson^s of the

2/2/65
- 10 -
sports world. These dinners offer up a pot pourri
of American life. And I try to savor it all as they
come down the line. ^{TP} In the Blue Room for dinner I
had the Speaker and Mrs. MacCormack on my right and Mr.
Justice Black on my left. We have a special bond,
Mr. Justice Black and I. We are both Alabamians, we
love government service, and are aware of its pangs
and its joys, and we have both had a bit of a hand in
the making of Lyndon. Or so I imagine without every
saying. ^{TP} Our Imaginative Bess had provided sea food
Golden Gate for the Chief Justice and chicken Bay
State for the Speaker and Minnesota wild ses rice for
Hubert. And Trappist cheese for Bess Abell of Kentucky!
A trappist ^{MONKS} cheese is made by the ~~monks~~. It is delicious.

TP While Clark and Lindy Boggs helped make things gay at
our table I talked to the Speaker about legislation.
There was a moment of exultation when the violins,
"the singing violins," came in, following the dessert.
And then the toast, emphasizing among us all, that
this was us, the government. ² A moment of unity,
fellow partisans. And then out into the hall for
coffee and to the East Room for entertainment. [#] I
had promised reluctantly to introduce them and I better
say no next time because I did a halting, poor, dull
job of it. They were Hume Cronin and Jessica Tandy.
I'll never forget her, in the role of Blanche DuBois.

2/2/65
7
- 11 -

in A Streetcar Named Desire. They gave readings as varied as Dorothy Parker, a Sonnet from Shakespeare. —
Great range and enchanting, but too long. I could see my husband looking at his watch. It always makes me flinch for the entertainers. ^P Then we danced in the foyer. Two of the honor couples ^{id} saw a fairly early goodnight. — And Hubert and Muriel staying until we were gone. I had a good dance with George Smathers and ^{with} Russell Long, and enjoyed a moment of dancing and talking with Dean Eugene Rostow of the Yale School of Law. — "The other Rostow, ^{its} ~~is~~ Walt that we are used to here in Washington. And of course with our Texans, Waggoner Carr and Jerry Williams, and Bob Storey. And ~~some~~ young people who had come to fix the light? Bess is wonderful about always remembering the people who work with the entertainment or the decorations, ^a And don't get in on the glamour itself. It was a good evening and the best part of dancing is that it mixes people up and gives a reason for spending a few minutes with one and then another and ^{then} another. I was so sorry that Luci, in bed with the flu, ~~couldn't~~ couldn't even come down. And Lynda, battling with home work, declined. It is hard for me to imagine having so much of this world's feast of interesting people laid in front of you. —
^{out} That you sit upstairs with a book instead of coming down and spending an hour with the varied and glittering

2/2/65

8
-12-

names on the list like tonight! It was a good evening and I went upstairs a little after one, satisfied with everybody but me, and wishing I had not tried to stand on my feet and say here they are the Hume Cronin's. But delighted that they reminded me of Ogden Nash, Dorothy Parker whom I used to be able to quote, and Edna St. Vincent Milay, 30 minutes at a time, and determined to meet a new poet, I had never read her before, Phyllis McGinley, because they did for an encore, a bit of her work, ^{called} Where In The World Did The Children Vanish, which I guess fits Lynda and Luci.