

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Sunday, July 18, 1965

A day of exercise and talk. It began with a religious service in Hickory - all the buildings at Camp David are named after trees - conducted by Billy Graham. All the guests were there, except Luci and Pat Nugent who had gone to Mass. And the servicemen and their families, attached to Camp David. He's an interesting phenomenon. would have been a success in any field, I believe, and I'm glad he's chosen preaching because he can reach such a wide audience. I am among them - reach and touch, and do some good with them, I mean.

I spent part of the day trying to record a bit with my movie camera. Adorable Coco in the pool; Bill Moyers had come with their two children, Cope and Suzanne; and their brother and his wife and two children; and then lying on the grass around the pool, having a bloody Mary, were the Katzenbach's and the Steinbeck's, talking books and Russia, and what I used to call, in my University days, life with a capital L.

John spoke of one town in Russia where there had been an enormous statue of Stalin, poised on a cement pedestal, as big as that swimming pool. The statue has been torn down, the pedestal still remains blank, waiting, no one asks about it. Literary figures are honored or important - they gave parties for him - at one of them he noticed a group of people, standing ~~near~~ around the wall, he said, "Who are they?" "They're the press." They alone in the room,

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didn't have any drinks. Elaine said, "I don't believe we care for a drink either, if they can't have one." Presently they got one.

Later I asked Nick about some of the techniques, some of the things we could do to combat crime in the District of Columbia. He's full of ideas - \$100,000. insurance policy on each policeman - that would mean that a young policeman with a family, would have some sense of assurance if he were killed in the line of duty; he recited the number that are, it's an insurable figure, but a heavy number. The man would feel that his family could go on living, would be protected.

Another is to get college education for policemen; try to recruit college educated men into the force, or offer night courses to policemen.

Another is all sorts of electronic devices, two-way radios so that they can at least keep up with the crime world, ^{wks} themselves have such things. I asked him about repeats, among young criminals. He used some ^{young} horrified figure, I believe it was 70%, however, he said, there was an attempt to try to send young criminals into some kind of a home condition in between, where they would have some training, some supervision, or some sort of a parolee station, I assume. And when they were let out of there, the repeats dropped to 40 or 30%. This is a war, the war on crime, that Lyndon ^{wants} ~~marks~~ "Won yesterday". Nick thinks that maybe we

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can make a dent in it in two or three years in the District of Columbia.

I went bowling with Lyndon and the Grahams - he was an excellent bowler - the Watson's, Marvin rolled a good, straight ball and a reliably high score, just like the man himself; and John Chancellor, who is practically the champion in this group, except for Lyndon.

Lyndon wants John Chancellor to take the job at Voice of America. We're not telling our story to the world well, he believes. John is walking sort of a tight rope between what attracts him and what pays more money. I told him I hoped he would earnestly consider it. He looked quite solemn and said he was.

Pat and Luci came to the pool with us - and Luci's favorite guest was the five weeks old son of Harry and Clayton McPherson, whom she carried around quite competently. Wearing a long, orange sweatshirt with the University of Texas on it, her new short haircut, This little baby in her arms, she was an adorable sight.

It was mid-afternoon and we had hamburgers out on the terrace, broiled on the grill where the smell made us ravenous. The hot, happy, hungry, with loaded paper plates, we drifted the companions who interested us, looked down in the valley toward Thurmont, where so much Civil War history took place, and ate and talked and thought 'this is about as happy a time as I'll ever have.'

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After lunch, there was a general exodus - the two Moyers' families, the Katzenbach's, and the rest us for naps. But Lyndon and I were up in time to watch the Secretary Connor on Meet The Press. He was assured, had done his homework, just a little nuance of humor, I thought he was great.

Lyndon picked up the phone and told him so, as soon as he finished. But I liked it even better, because Lyndon had called the telephone girl a little earlier and told her how much she added to the smoothest and efficiency and good functioning of his life, and would she please thank all of them. That's when I beam.

The Alabama story and my talks with Billy Graham have been one of the most ^{fun} things of the weekend to me. He says Dr. Frank Rose of the University of Alabama, is a great friend of his, a builder of that institution - and several times I've heard that now - that there are, I believe he said, 12 or 15 negro members of the faculty at the University, and about 125 negro students now (You never hear that). He said he had met with all the negro leaders in Alabama, and here I began to be a little dubious about his sources of information, when he said that they had asked the people of the east to leave them alone, that they could solve their problems, that they were on there way to doing it, that only 20 or 30% of them were followers of Dr. King.

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He had also met Governor Wallace - he used the expression "I confess to being impressed by him." "I don't believe he thinks he's a racist."

There had been a full ~~two~~ page spread, two in fact, in the Washington Post, that I could have done without. It was about the newly decorated offices in the West Wing, pictures of Lyndon's, Jack's, Bill's, Buz's and the former Fish Room. Lyndon wants to get it done but not advertise it. I think his concern is entirely out of proportion with what matters - and what's visible is always going to be seen and written about. Of course, he's the man thought, who has to preach economy to the Departments and the Congress, and ask for money and take the blame, so I shouldn't get hurt and angry at him - but I do.