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OLC - 78-1896
7 June 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: "Reintroduction of Presidential Papers Bill"

In response to my earlier 7 June telephone call Ed Gleiman, staffer on the Subcommittee on Government Information and Individual Rights of the House Committee on Government Operations, returned my call. I told Mr. Gleiman that I was calling to follow-up our 2 June conversation re H. R. 10998, a "Presidential Papers" bill.

Specifically, I asked Mr. Gleiman what procedural steps would be taken by the Subcommittee in the near future with regard to action on the bill. Mr. Gleiman informed me that the staff has been "reworking" the bill, attempting to work out problems with staff personnel of Representatives Allen Ertel (D., Pa.) and John Brademas (D., Ind.), both of whom introduced H. R. 11001, another "Presidential Papers" bill. Mr. Gleiman said that the "rework" was just about complete; the Sub-Committee is hopeful that Messrs. Ertel, Brademas and Preyer (D., N. Car., Subcommittee Chairman) will be able to meet next week to agree on staff compromises already worked-out and/or work out themselves whatever compromises are required to surface the bill anew.

Once revised according to the wishes of Preyer, Ertel and Brademas, the "clean bill" will be reintroduced. Subsequent to reintroduction the Subcommittee will hold one more day of hearings at which time Administration and Executive Branch witnesses will include representatives of the National Archives, from whom the Subcommittee hopes to be informed about the impact of the bill on the Archives day-to-day activities, and representatives of the Justice Department, who will be commenting on any constitutional concerns the bill might raise. A Subcommittee mark up session will then be scheduled with a view to reporting the bill out to full Committee shortly thereafter.

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I informed Mr. Gleiman that I would be contacting OMB with regard to his information to determine the Administration position vis-a-vis the bill. Mr. Gleiman said the White House had made its position abundantly clear on H. R. 10998. The Subcommittee does not see any further need to query the White House for their views.

Substantively, Mr. Gleiman indicated that the Subcommittee was considering reducing the proposed 15 year Presidential access control figure to 8 years and retaining those provisions making FOIA applicable to Presidential Papers.

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[redacted]
Assistant Legislative Counsel

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