MEMORANDUM

TO: HERB HEASER

Will you, and the Legislative Reference Service, check the New York Times for the period in the general vicinity of the time that Whittaker Chambers turned up the Pumpkin Papers.

Ascertain how prominently Richard Nixon figured in the reports of whatever part the Un-American Activities Committee played in this development. These were, of course, turned up as an incident to the libel suit Hiss had filed against Chambers.

Does the New York Times report that Nixon was present at the actual unveiling of the Pumpkin Papers? Was any member of the Committee in Chambers' cornfield when he led the staff to the pumpkin? Did Nixon figure in the events immediately following the discovery of the Pumpkin Papers?

I am aware, of course, that there were two sets of papers -- first, those that Chambers said he had hidden in a laundry chute, and then, those that he whisked out of the pumpkin.

The object of this whole exercise is to ascertain exactly the role the press, at the time, reported Nixon to be playing.

c.c. Bill Walsh

J.C.C.E.