

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 2, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

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FROM:

JERRY JONES

SUBJECT:

Howard Phillips, Jr.

As you know, Howie Phillips left OEO at the end of the fiscal year. Phillips was given the assignment of closing down the agency, and he carried out that assignment to the best of his ability and to the extent that circumstances permitted.

We owe Phillips nothing. He was a willing volunteer on a kamikaze mission. However, from a political point of view, we ought to take care of him at least for a short period of time.

Phillips is a symbol to conservatives; to them, he's the guy who went in and cleaned up a Great Society mess. We have been criticized by the conservative wing of the party in the past for not taking care of our (or their) own, and the Phillips case now has the potential to develop into a cause celebre.

Phillips has no outside income; he needs a job. In checking around the White House, I find that there is near unanimity of opinion that we ought to help him, but nobody wants him in their shop.

We have called several departments about Phillips; no Secretary will have him because of the unfavorable OEO publicity.

Regardless of whatever liberal fire we may draw, I firmly believe we have to help Phillips out. I propose that we put him on a White House consultancy, give him an office somewhere, and let him spend two or three months writing up the OEO story, a chronology that could tell us how, or how not, to close an agency down.

If we proceed, we can probably expect to take some heat, but I believe it can be handled by pointing out that Phillips did what the President wanted done. He does not deserve to be thrown out on the streets for carrying out his orders.

Give Phillips a White House consultancy.

Agree _____

Disagree _____