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Dr. William R. Van Cleave

Mr. Richard J. Whalen

Another document also reviewed by the Task Force identifies the following people to be members of the "October Surprise Group":¹⁰

Richard V. Allen

Fred C. Ikle

Charles M. Kupperman

John R. Lehman, Jr.

Thomas H. Moorer

Robert G. Neumann

Eugene V. Rostow

Lawrence Silberman

William R. Van Cleave

Seymour Weiss

Most of these members also served on the campaign's foreign policy advisory panel. According to members of the "October Surprise" group, the following individuals also participated in meetings although they were not considered "members" of the group:

Michael Ledeen

Richard Perle

Richard Stillwell

General Louis Walt

William Middendorf

Admiral James Holloway.^{11, 12}

¹⁰ List of "OSG Phone Numbers", undated, obtained from Richard Allen. (Folder #92-340, Bate #400367)

¹¹ See page 4, Van Cleave interview, dated 10/7/92.

¹² See page 2, Kupperman interview, dated 11/16/92.

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1 Meeting participants varied depending upon the area of discussion.
2 Persons interviewed by the Task Force concurred that the "October
3 Surprise" group had no formal structure and only met approximately
4 seven to eight times.
5

6 Several of those persons interviewed, disavowed participation
7 in any type of strategy or "October Surprise Group" meetings and
8 claim they had no knowledge of any group called the "October
9 Surprise" group or the "Gang of Ten" within the
10 campaign.^{13, 14, 15} These individuals had no explanation for
11 their names appearing on any documents suggesting otherwise.
12

13 Richard Allen described the "October Surprise Group" as... "a
14 myth and a scam. Because the group sat and talked about everything
15 including the release of hostages. But it was never designed, it
16 didn't work or anything. We just sat in my office and talked about
17 campaign strategy..."¹⁶ Allen explained that he intended the
18 press to pick up on his continued references to the "October
19 Surprise Group" and create the impression in the public's mind that
20 any last minute actions by President Carter were politically

21 ¹³ See interview of Adm. Moorer, dated 11/18/92.

22 ¹⁴ See page 3, Rostow interview, dated 11/20/92.

23 ¹⁵ See page (no # yet), Amb. Edward L. Rowny interview, dated
24 11/30/92.

25 ¹⁶ See page 21, Allen deposition, dated 9/1/92.

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1 motivated.¹⁷ Allen's strategy was successful in that the press
2 reported on the formation of the group.¹⁸
3

4 There are published reports that Robert McFarlane, an aide to
5 Senator John Tower at the time, participated in at least one
6 "October Surprise Group" meeting, where he suggested that arms be
7 exchanged for hostages. Those members and participants of the
8 "October Surprise" group who were interviewed or deposed by the
9 Task Force, and who had a clear recollection of past events, did
10 not remember McFarlane's participation.^{19, 20, 21, 22} Ray
11 Tanter is reported to have made a public statement that McFarlane
12 made such a proposal at one of these meetings.²³ Tanter, however,
13 denied to the Task Force that he was a member of the "October
14 Surprise Group."²⁴ **BAUMGARDNER TO CALL BACK FOR MORE INFO.**

15 ¹⁷ See, e.g., Memorandum dated 10/10/80 from the Veterans
16 Voter Group to Richard Allen. (Folder #92-340, Bate
17 #400317)

18 ¹⁸ See, e.g., "Reagan Aides Seek Way to Defeat Any 'Surprise,'" New York Times, Oct. 7, 1980.
19

20 ¹⁹ See page 3, Van Cleave interview, dated 10/7/92.

21 ²⁰ See page 4, Kupperman interview, dated 11/16/92.

22 ²¹ See page (no # yet), William Schneider, Jr. interview,
23 dated 12/1/92.

24 ²² There are other indications, such as the L'Enfant Plaza
25 meeting, that McFarlane had contact with Allen and others
26 associated with the campaign.

27 ²³ October Surprise (Honegger) at 51.

28 ²⁴ See page 1, Tanter interview, dated 9/3/92.