MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Eric Goldman  
Special Consultant  
to the President  
The White House

A. Miss Conklin of my staff has collated the recommendations of the six film critics who offered their estimates of the most important American filmmakers.

Attached is a complete breakdown for your records and the following is a summary of the individuals principally mentioned.

1. Four men were named by all six critics:
   X  
   Elia Kazan  
   George Stevens  
   William Wyler  
   Fred Zinnemann

2. Stanley Kubrick was mentioned by four of the six critics (one of these was in the "most promising" category).

3. Three men were mentioned by three of the critics: Stanley Kramer, Alfred Hitchcock and Billy Wilder.

4. It should be noted that John Huston was named by five of the six critics but he is no longer an American citizen and according to my understanding this would remove him from consideration.
Therefore, per our discussion, my office will proceed to contact Kazan, Stevens, Wyler, Zinnemann and Kubrick. They will be asked what scenes they believe would best demonstrate their work. We will ask for alternatives so that we maintain latitude.

To reach our desired total of six, one of the group including Kramer, Hitchcock and Wilder should be designated. Perhaps we can wait on this until we see how the other selected scenes shape up.

B. I have initiated explorations of the projection equipment rental and this should be finalized next week as soon as the room and the time for the film showings is designated. I mentioned to Barbara Lee Diamonstein the need for total darkness in the room which is to be used.

C. I gave you my thoughts regarding a host for this part of the day earlier on the phone.

I think in order to lend long-range value to this undertaking a commentary should be written and delivered by someone outside of the motion picture field. It should be someone whose words are likely to add an appraisal of the motion picture as an American art form which would have more influence than one offered by an individual whose principal interest is motion pictures.

My suggestions were two:

1. Russell Baker whom I know only slightly but who has written humorous pieces which indicate that he has seen many motion pictures. I know nothing about his public speaking abilities nor do I know if he has a strong feeling about the place of the film in the United States or about the filmmakers who have been selected by the critics.
2. Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. is, in my opinion, one of the most interesting writers on the subject of films. It is, of course, a side-light with him but he has written interesting pieces in Harpers Magazine, Show Magazine, and served on the Jury of last year's international festival at Cannes. The fact that Arthur was a member of the previous Administration may be a drawback - I am certain Jack Valenti could give you a quick reading on that factor as it now stands. Arthur's virtue for this is that he has a sense of films as they relate to American life and history, and I am certain he is familiar with most of the films which are likely to be shown at the presentation.

I think an important factor here is that President Johnson has led the way in giving the motion picture the recognition it has previously lacked in American political life. (By its important inclusion in the Arts Bill, the President's Council on the Arts, etc.) It is, therefore, particularly important that the person who handles this part of the program be truly knowledgeable and articulate on the subject so that this recognition is clearly justified.

If neither of these possibilities work out let me know and I will give it further thought.

George Stevens, Jr.
Director
Motion Picture Service
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Stanley Kubrick
with NASA officials
in England
(mid 1960s)

Left to right: Frederick Ordway (in white), Deke Slayton, Arthur Clarke, unidentified man (behind Clarke), Stanley Kubrick, George Mueller.
Stanley Kubrick
with George Mueller of NASA
in England
(mid 1960s)