



NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
(rev. 10/08)

Conversation No. 539-1

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: 10:00 am - 10:11 am  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with John C. Stennis, F. Edward Hébert, William P. Rogers, William E. Timmons, Clark MacGregor, Kenneth E. BeLieu, and Henry A. Kissinger  
[Recording begins while the conversation is in progress]

US foreign policy

- The People's Republic of China [PRC]
- Congressional action
  - Perception of restriction of the President

Vietnam War

- Cease fire, troop withdrawal
- Prisoner of war [POW] issue
- Effect of Congressional action
  - Michael J. ("Mike") Mansfield
    - Stance
- US goals
  - Number of US military casualties
  - POW return
- Effect of Congressional action
  - On the President
  - On a possible settlement
  - House, Senate votes
- Mansfield
  - Possible effect of PRC trip on attitude
- Strategy
  - Limitation on the President's freedom of action

General conversation

The President, *et al.* left at 10:11 am

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Conversation No. 539-2

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 10:11 am and 10:13 am  
Location: Oval Office

H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman [?] met with Alexander P. Butterfield [?]

[Unintelligible]

The President entered at an unknown time after 10:11 am

White House furnishings

The President, *et al.* left at an unknown time before 10:13 am

Conversation No. 539-3

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 10:14 am and 11:12 am  
Location: Oval Office

Unknown men [Secret Service] met

The President  
-Location  
-Cabinet Room  
-Schedule

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

[Agency Policy]  
[Duration: 47m 55s ]

[An unknown person talked with an unknown person at an unknown time between 10:14 am and 11:12 am]

[Conversation No. 539-3A]

[End of telephone conversation]

[An unknown person talked with an unknown person at an unknown time between 10:14 am and 11:12 am]

[Conversation No. 539-3B]

[End of telephone conversation]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

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Recording was cut off at an unknown time before 11:12 am

Conversation No. 539-4

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 11:12 am and 11:18 am  
Location: Oval Office

The President talked with an unknown person

Schedule

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Conversation No. 539-5

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 11:12 am and 11:18 am  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with an unknown person

Item for the President's Old Executive Office Building office

The unknown person left at an unknown time before 11:18 am

Conversation No. 539-6

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: 11:18 am - 11:37 am  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman

Meeting  
-Rogers C. B. Morton

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1  
[Personal Returnable]  
[Duration: 55s ]

Henry A. Kissinger entered at 11:19 am

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

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**NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**

**Tape Subject Log**

*(rev. 10/08)*

The US initiative towards the People's Republic of China [PRC]

- William P. Rogers' role
  - Media coverage
  - Briefing book
- Media coverage
  - The President's role
  - Kissinger's role
  - Rogers
    - The State Department
- Public perceptions
- Newsweek* article, *Time* article
  - Tone
    - Presidential role
      - Covers of magazines
        - The President, Chou En-lai, Kissinger
- Columnists
  - Hugh S. Sidey
- Public statement by the Soviet ambassador to Indonesia
- Briefing for White House staff
  - President's role
  - Request for meeting
  - Kissinger's role
  - Secrecy in negotiation
  - President's role

Conv. No. 539-6 (cont.)

Schedule

- Kissinger

White House staff briefing

- Leak of story
- James B. ("Scotty") Reston story

Meeting with Congressional leaders

- J. William Fulbright
- Rogers' role
- John C. Stennis' comment to Kissinger
  - Michael J. ("Mike") Mansfield
    - Mansfield Amendment
    - Rogers
    - Vietnam War settlement
      - Release of prisoners of war [POWs], cease fire
      - Self-determination

**NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**

**Tape Subject Log**

*(rev. 10/08)*

Schedule

-Kissinger

Kissinger left at 11:29 am

David M. Kennedy

-Use of airplane

Conv. No. 539-6 (cont.)

-Payment

-Rogers

-State Department

-Comparison with the President's 1967 world travel

John B. Connally

-Schedule

The President's schedule

-The Bohemian Grove

-Possible visit

Polls

-George H. Gallup

-Edward M. ("Ted") Kennedy

-Comparison to Louis Harris' poll

-Presidential approval poll

-Effect of Pentagon Papers case

-Gallup

-Poll results

-Potomac Associates

-John W. Gardner comparison

-Vietnam War settlement issue

-Timing of polls

-News impact

-The President's television appearance

Cabinet

-Support for administration

-John A. Volpe

-George W. Romney

-Walter J. Hickel

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Tape Subject Log  
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Congress

- Appropriations Committee
- Scheduling

Schedule

- Clark R. Mollenhoff
- Bureau Chief
- Richard ("Dick") Wilson

Conv. No. 539-6 (cont.)

The PRC initiative

- Kissinger
  - Rogers' role
- Media coverage
  - The President
  - Kissinger
    - Newsweek*

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

[Personal Returnable]

[Duration: 32s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

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Alexander P. Butterfield entered at an unknown time after 11:29 am

Schedule

- Kissinger's briefing in the Roosevelt Room

Butterfield left at an unknown time before 11:37 am

[Haldeman talked to an unknown person at an unknown time between 11:29 am and 11:37 am]

[Conversation No. 539-6A]

Instructions for Kissinger

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[End of telephone conversation]

The President and Haldeman left at 11:37 am

Conv. No. 539-6 (cont.)  
Conversation No. 539-7

Date: July 19, 1971

Time: 11:58 am - 12:08 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Ronald L. Ziegler

The People's Republic of China [PRC] initiative

- Briefing of Congressional leaders and Cabinet
  - President's role
  - Henry A. Kissinger's role
- Reaction by other countries
  - William P. Rogers
- Briefings
  - Speculation
  - Expression of views
  - Taiwan issue
  - Vietnam War
- Vice President Spiro T. Agnew
  - Knowledge
    - Wire service report
  - Kissinger

Agnew

- Statements made in Madrid, Spain
  - Comments about African Blacks
    - Slavery
      - US Black leaders
    - Domestic, foreign impact
      - Ralph Abernathy

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**Tape Subject Log**

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US-Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] relations

- General Alexander M. Haig, Jr., Kissinger
- Summit possibility
- The President's stance

Taiwan issue

- Perceptions

Conv. No. 539-7 (cont.)

Cover photographs

- Use by magazines
- The President

Foreign relations

- The PRC, Vietnam
- Democratic response
- J. William Fulbright
- Michael J. ("Mike") Mansfield

Congressional leaders meeting

Ziegler left at 12:08 pm

Conversation No. 539-8

Date: July 19, 1971

Time: Unknown between 12:08 pm and 12:48 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

Staff meeting

- Schedule
- Henry A. Kissinger

Bull left at an unknown time before 12:48 pm

**NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**

**Tape Subject Log**  
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Conversation No. 539-9

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 12:08 pm and 12:48 pm  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

[Music box plays "Hail to the Chief"]

Staff meeting  
-Schedule  
-John D. Ehrlichman

Children  
-John [Surname unknown]  
-Music box  
-Visits to the Oval Office  
-Gifts

Bull left at an unknown time before 12:48 pm

Conversation No. 539-10

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 12:08 pm and 12:48 pm  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

Copies of *Time*, *Newsweek*  
-Thelma C. (Ryan) ("Pat") Nixon

Bull left at an unknown time before 12:48 pm

**NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**

**Tape Subject Log**  
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Conversation No. 539-11

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 12:08 pm and 12:48 pm  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

The barber's schedule

Bull left at an unknown time after 12:48 pm

Conversation No. 539-12

Date: July 19, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 12:08 pm and 1:08 pm  
Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a memorandum to Henry A. Kissinger

The US-People's Republic of China [PRC] initiative  
-Kissinger's press briefing  
-Content

[End of dictation]

Kissinger entered at 12:48 pm

Kissinger's schedule  
-Anatoliy F. Dobrynin  
-John B. Connally  
-The press  
-July 20, 1971  
-Meeting with conservatives

The PRC initiative  
-Staff meeting  
-Patrick J. Buchanan

**NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**

**Tape Subject Log**

*(rev. 10/08)*

- Press story
  - The PRC's stance
- North Vietnam
- News magazines
  - Coverage
- Knowledge
  - Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, William P. Rogers
  - Call from Joseph W. Alsop Conv. No. 539-12 (cont.)
    - State Department knowledge
      - Comparison to Cambodian action
      - Future handling of announcements
      - Possible Soviet summit
  - The President's visit to Perino's Restaurant
    - Press coverage
  - Effect of announcement
  - Memorandum for Kissinger's briefing
    - The President
  - Meeting in Lincoln Sitting Room
    - The President, Kissinger

Kissinger left at 12:55 pm

The President dictated a memorandum to Kissinger at an unknown time between 12:55 pm and 1:08 pm

The PRC initiative

- Kissinger's press briefing
- Content

[The President played back a portion of the dictation]

[End of dictation]

[This dictation continues on Conversation No. 539-13]

## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

## Tape Subject Log

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Conversation No. 539-13

Date: July 19, 1971  
 Time: Unknown between 12:55 pm and 1:08 pm  
 Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a memorandum to Henry A. Kissinger

Conv. No. 539-14 (cont.)

[This is a continuation of Conversation No. 539-12]

The People's Republic of China [PRC] initiative  
 -Kissinger's press briefing  
 -Content

Conversation No. 539-14

Date: July 19, 1971  
 Time: 1:08 pm - 1:21 pm  
 Location: Oval Office

The President met with H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman

The People's Republic of China [PRC] initiative  
 -Henry A. Kissinger  
   -Briefing  
     -Cabinet  
 -Memorandum  
   -Kissinger  
   -John A. Scali  
     -Chou En-lai  
 -Cabinet  
 -Staff briefing  
   -Confidentiality  
     -The press  
 -Reason for briefing  
   -Kissinger  
     -Comparison to Cambodia, Laos  
 -Rogers C. B. Morton  
 -Leaks

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- News magazines
  - Coverage
    - Kissinger
    - State Department, William P. Rogers
    - Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, Melvin R. Laird
    - Marshall Green
    - President's role

Conv. No. 539-14 (cont.)

John B. Connally

- Forthcoming meeting with the President
  - Previous meeting with Haldeman
  - Schedule
    - July 19, 1971 meeting
    - Forthcoming Congressional testimony
    - Kissinger's briefing
- Perceptions on Cabinet role
- Possible departure from the Cabinet
- Management style
  - State Department
  - Council [of Economic Advisors?]
  - George P. Shultz
- Compared to David M. Kennedy

Cabinet members

- Relations with the President
  - John A. Volpe
  - John D. Ehrlichman
  - George W. Romney

Connally

- Schedule
  - Forthcoming Congressional testimony
- Time of meeting with the President

Schedule

- Ehrlichman's request to see the President
- Appropriations Committee
- Domestic issues
  - Ehrlichman's perception of meetings

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- Congressional leaders meeting
  - Peter H. Dominick
  - Clark MacGregor
- Connally

The President and Haldeman left at 1:21 pm

Conv. No. 539-14 (cont.)

Conversation No. 539-15

Date: July 19, 1971

Time: 1:21 pm - 1:22 pm

Location: Oval Office

An unknown man [Secret Service] entered

The President's location

- Executive Office Building

Recording was cut off at 1:22 pm