

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log

(rev. 10/06)

Transcript #1: Part of a conversation among President Nixon, H. R. Haldeman, and Henry A. Kissinger in the Oval Office between 9:55 am and 11:35 am on April 28, 1971.

Conversation No. 491-1#1

President: Well, I had a very interesting --

Kissinger: [Unintelligible]

President: -- I had a very interesting, uh, sort of analysis, you know, Buchanan is not dumb.

Unknown: Yeah.

President: He sits in meeting like a [unintelligible] but he writes brilliantly. But, uh, he wrote the, the sugg-, suggested anders, answer to the protesters. He said that this answer is a minority. He's always honest because of, he said, he he said [unintelligible], "I do not agree with those who say that you should, uh, be-, take any notice of the fact that the demonstration was peaceful." He said, "You do not praise people for doing what the law requires of people, and I do not think, think you should take notice of the fact that it was orderly. Uh, I think you should say, 'yes, it was large, and there have been a lot of other large demonstrations.'" But he said, AI, uh, think you should be on this case firm an= staunch and controlled but tougher than you=ve been before. Kick 'em a bit. Kick their rears." When those people come in - I don't mean the demonstrators; I didn't mean that unless they're bad. But to the point, he said, "If they come in with a nasty question, kick 'em in the balls." That's my [unintelligible].

Kissinger: I tr-, I, I, I think, Mr. --

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Conv. No. 491-1#1 (cont.)

President: Right?

Kissinger: -- President, we have to fight these guys now. I, uh --

President: Well, everybody's, uh, I mean, Connally feels strongly that I'm, uh, that he thinks I'm too bland. [Unintelligible].

Kissinger: But, I think that- --

President: Uh, on the other hand, most people think the press conferences have been about right, but, uh --.

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Transcript #2: Part of a conversation among President Nixon, H. R. Haldeman, and Henry A. Kissinger in the Oval Office between 9:55 am and 11:35 am on April 28, 1971.

Conversation No. 491-1#2

President: Anyway, Bob, as far as I'm concerned - I know all the staffers are probably wondering - but I've got the mood. I've got my own thoughts about this conference, and I'm gonna do it my own way. I'm not gonna go through the anguish of preparing the goddamn thing like half the others. I'm gonna be prepared with four or five answers. And, uh, and some of these bastards get up and start deriding the United States, and they're vicious in their questions, I'm gonna nail 'em right on the spot. I think we have been too soft. I think we've given the impression --.

Haldeman: Do you think the answer Ziegler popped into one of his briefings was --.

President: I think the whole administration's too soft.

Haldeman: He apparently got away with it, and it's kind of incredible when you read the briefing anyway.

President: [Unintelligible] question.

Haldeman: I'm gonna find out who it was. Whether the President, why the President doesn't see students, you know, and all that sort of demonstration - the anti people around the Hill, the usual horseshit and, an' all. A guy said, AWell, has the President, uh, had any exposure, has anybody been in to see the President who opposes his views on Vietnam?" And Ron just whipped back, he said, "You've been in there

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Conv. No. 491-1#2 (cont.)

three or four times a day, h-had photo opportunities," - right to the reporters. The reporter said, "Yes, but I don't express my views to the President." Which the guy in effect said, "that's right."

Kissinger: That=s the new line they=re pushing, incidentally, now, Mr. President.