

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**Tape Subject Log***(rev. 10/06)*

Part of a memorandum dictated by President Nixon in the Oval Office for H. R. Haldeman at an unknown time between 1:55 pm and 2:40 pm on May 8, 1971.

Conversation No. 494-8

President: [Pause] One question which we should've included on the poll [unintelligible] which would have answered my, uh, [unintelligible] to [unintelligible] to, uh, [unintelligible] just about right and his, uh. [Replays dictabelt recording] [Unintelligible] of the demonstrators. In other words, get the same question with regard to the President that we have with regard to the police forces. Paragraph: [clears throat] I want to reiterate my [unintelligible] you this morning. Search for a way and not just through, and not just through backgrounders for identification with, uh, [unintelligible] identification of our [unintelligible] or mine against, uh, [unintelligible] disruptive demonstrators. [Pause] That's it. [Pause; room noise] [Replays dictabelt] [Unintelligible] through statements by Mitchell, Agnew, and, uh, Congressmen. That's all, just Congressmen 'n' Senators. Two: [Unintelligible] have tended to be [unintelligible] issue [unintelligible] so closely the [unintelligible] Washington press corps. We tend to get the worst of both worlds [unintelligible] statements which, uh, [unintelligible] the, also support the demonstrators do not, uh, come on strong enough to [unintelligible] our own forces. [Unintelligible]. It was one of those issues where people see it pretty much in black and white terms. Good guy/bad guy issue. Particularly TV [unintelligible] support for [unintelligible] quite aware the worst position we could be in [unintelligible] to appear [unintelligible] the context. This is the problem we have on a number of issues.