



White House Tapes of the Nixon Administration, 1971-1973

Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, NARA Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 597542

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Conversation No. 902-001

Date: April 19, 1973
Time: 9:31 am - 10:12 am
Location: Oval Office

The President and H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman entered.

President's schedule
-Camp David
-Haldeman

John D. Ehrlichman entered at 9:32 am.

White House staff
-New appointments
-Qualities
-Kenneth R. Cole, Jr.
-Ehrlichman
-James T. Lynn
-Floyd H. Hyde
-Under Secretary of Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD]
-[First name unknown] Stanfield [?]
-Counselor for community development
-Lynn
-Qualities
-Roy L. Ash
-Duties



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[A transcript of the following portion of this conversation was initially prepared for the Watergate Special Prosecution Force (WSPF) and can be found in Record Group (RG) 460, Box 174, "Transcript of a Recording of a Meeting among the President, H. R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman on April 19, 1973 from 9:31 a.m. to 10:12 a.m.," pages 1-27. The Nixon Presidential Materials Staff reviewed the transcript and made changes as necessary. This transcript has been reviewed under the provisions of the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act of 1974 (PRMPA). The National Archives does not guarantee its accuracy.]

[Begin transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

Justification

John N. Mitchell [?]

[Resume transcribed portion]

An unknown man entered at an unknown time after 9:31 am.

Request for Stephen B. Bull

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 10:12 am.

Bull entered at an unknown time after 9:31 am.

Bull left at an unknown time before 10:12 am.

[End transcribed portion]

Watergate

- President's position
- Insulation
- Exposure
- Compared to Office of President
- Leonard Garment



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- Compared to Henry A. Kissinger [?]
- Effects on family, working relationships

[Resume transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

Vietnam

- President's May 8, 1972 decision
 - Meeting with Kissinger and Haldeman
 - Cancellation of United State [US] - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] summit
 - Timing of announcements
 - John B. Connally's viewpoint
- President's December 18, 1972 decision
 - Camp David
 - Col. Richard T. Kennedy
 - Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
 - Kissinger's viewpoint
 - Bombing of North Vietnam
 - Television [TV] announcement
 - Public opinion

[Resume transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

Watergate

- Ehrlichman
 - Legal career

[Resume transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

Haldeman and Ehrlichman left at 10:12 am.



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Conversation No. 902-002

Date: April 19, 1973

Time: 10:12 am

Location: Oval Office

The President met with an unknown man.

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[Begin transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

The unknown man left at 10:12 am.

Conversation No. 902-003

Date: April 19, 1973

Time: 10:12 am - 11:07 am

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Henry E. Petersen.

[A transcript of the following portion of this conversation was initially prepared for the Watergate Special Prosecution Force (WSPF) and can be found in Record Group (RG) 460, Box 174, "Transcript of a Recording of a Meeting among the President, H. R. Haldeman, and John



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Ehrlichman on April 19, 1972 from 9:31 a.m. to 10:12 a.m.,” pages 1-7. The Nixon Presidential Materials Staff reviewed the transcript and made changes as necessary. This transcript has been reviewed under the provisions of the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act of 1974 (PRMPA). The National Archives does not guarantee its accuracy.]

[Begin transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

Ellsberg

[Resume transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

[National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2014-011. Segment exempt per Executive Order 13526, 3.3(b)(1) on 10/18/2017. Archivist: AY]

[National Security]

[902-003-w002]

[Duration: 5s]

BUGGING

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

[Resume transcribed portion]



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[End transcribed portion]

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

[*National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2014-011. Segment exempt per Executive Order 13526, 3.3(b)(1) on 12/01/2017. Archivist: AY*]

[National Security]

[902-003-w003]

[Duration: 9s]

SOURCE

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

[Resume transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4

[*National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2014-011. Segment exempt per Executive Order 13526, 3.3(b)(1) on 10/18/2017. Archivist: AY*]

[National Security]

[902-003-w004]

[Duration: 6s]

BUGGING



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END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4

[Resume transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

Watergate

- John D. Ehrlichman's and H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman's lawyers
 - John J. Wilson and Frank H. Strickler
- Grand Jury leaks
 - Harold H. Titus, Jr. and Earl J. Silbert
 - Seymour Glanzer
 - Petersen's staff
 - Reporters
 - Prosecutors
 - Gordon C. Strachan's testimony
 - Petersen's meetings with Silbert, Titus and Glanzer
 - Court reporters
- Executive privilege
- John W. Dean, III
- Haldeman and Ehrlichman
 - Possible resignation
- Jeb Stuart Magruder
- Washington Post* story
- Dean
 - Conversations with President
 - White House staff involvement
 - Report to President
 - Ronald L. Ziegler's statement
 - Conversations with prosecutors
 - White House staff involvement



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- Conversations with President
 - John N. Mitchell
 - White House staff involvement
 - Haldeman, Ehrlichman
- Conversations with Petersen
 - Information on status of investigation
- Investigation
- Immunity
 - Prosecutors' bargaining
- Negotiations with prosecutors
 - Immunity
- Conversations with President
 - Mitchell
 - Magruder
- Credibility
 - Magruder and Strachan
 - Dean
 - Magruder and Strachan
 - Lie detector
- Charles W. Colson
 - Lie detector
- Magruder and Strachan
 - Haldeman
 - Strachan's story
 - Magruder's story
- Ehrlichman
 - Materials from E. Howard Hunt, Jr.'s safe
 - Motives of funds for defendants
 - Dean's conversation with President
 - William O. Bittman
 - Blackmail
 - \$1,000,000
 - President's response
- Bittman
 - Attorney's fee
- President's conversations with Ehrlichman and Haldeman



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- Veracity
 - Stories concerning funds for defendants
 - Ehrlichman's reaction
 - Ehrlichman's and Haldeman's desire for full disclosure
- Mitchell
 - Responsibility
- Strachan and Magruder
 - Conflict in stories
 - Haldeman
 - Problem of prosecution
- \$350,000
 - Haldeman's knowledge
 - Frederick C. LaRue
- Ehrlichman
 - Hunt materials
 - Destruction by L[ouis] Patrick Gray
 - Conversation with Gray and Dean
- Dean
 - Professed role in Watergate
 - Ehrlichman, Haldeman, Mitchell
 - Difficulty of corroboration
 - Testimony of those involved
 - Political conversations
- President's statement
- Immunity
 - Petersen's role
 - Dean's lawyer's current activity
 - Prosecutors' strategy
- Dean
 - Knowledge of pre-Watergate activities
 - Subornation of perjury
 - Macgruder
 - Defense and mitigation of sentence
 - Funds for defendants
- Prosecutors' case
 - White House cooperation



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- Immunity
 - Corroboration
 - Dean position on White House staff
- Ehrlichman
 - Hunt materials
 - Possible case against
 - William P. Rogers's opinion
- Haldeman
 - Information from Strachan
 - \$350,000

Stephen B. Bull and an unknown man entered at an unknown time after 10:12 am.

President's schedule

- Meeting with Henry A. Kissinger
- Meeting with Jewish leaders
 - Kissinger's briefing
 - Message from Soviet Union [USSR] leaders
- President's appearance

Bull and the unknown man left at an unknown time before 11:07 am.

Soviet Jews

- Meeting with Jewish leaders
 - Emigration of Soviet Jews
- President's meeting with Jacob K. Javits and Abraham A. Ribicoff, April 18, 1973
 - Emigration issue
 - Impact on relations with Soviet Union
 - Risks
 - Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT] II
 - Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction [MBFR]
 - Soviet Union [USSR] Relations
 - Middle East
 - Southeast Asia
- Upcoming meeting with Soviet Union [USSR] leaders
- Impact on US public opinion



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- Javits's statement
- Press relations

Watergate

- Haldeman
 - Conspiracy case
 - Knowledge of Gemstone
 - Electronic intelligence
 - Magruder compared to Strachan
 - President's conversation with Dean, April 16, 1973
 - Resignations
 - Haldeman, Ehrlichman
- Dean
- Ehrlichman
 - Conspiracy case
 - Obstruction of justice
 - Funds for defendants
 - Bittman, Paul L. O'Brien, Haldeman
 - James W. McCord's statement
 - Dorothy Hunt
 - Bittman's statement
- Bittman
 - Contacts
 - Dean
 - Colson
 - Conversation concerning funds
 - LaRue's delivery of money to law firm Hogan and Hartson
- LaRue
 - Testimony
 - Obstruction of justice
 - Magruder's testimony
 - Possible plea
 - Haldeman
 - O'Brien
- Dean
 - Knowledge of Bittman's request for funds



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- Mitchell
 - Conversations with prosecutors
 - Colson
- Bittman
 - Haldeman [?]
- Conspiracy charges
 - Ehrlichman
 - Haldeman
 - Ehrlichman
- Dean's conversation with Ehrlichman concerning funds
 - Ehrlichman's reaction
- Fund transfers
 - Authorization
 - Timing
- Haldeman
 - Possible resignation
- Mitchell
 - William Hundley, Fred Vinson
 - LaRue
- Magruder
 - Appearance before John J. Sirica
 - Conflict with Strachan
- President's schedule
- Directorship of Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI]
- Watergate case
- President's activities
- Dean
 - Mitchell
 - Funds for defendants
 - Conversation with President
 - President's reaction
 - Report
 - Haldeman
 - Magruder
- Petersen's record
 - Interviews



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- White House cooperation
- Dean
- Directorship of Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI]

Petersen left at 11:07 am

Conversation No. 902-011

Date: April 19, 1973
Time: Unknown between 11:07 am and 11:08 am
Location: Oval Office

Unknown men met.

Furniture

The unknown men left at an unknown time before 11:08 am

Conversation No. 902-004

Date: April 19, 1973
Time: 11:08 am - 11:09 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Henry A. Kissinger.

- Kissinger
 - Conversation with William E. Timmons
 - Briefing

Kissinger left at 11:09 am.



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Conversation No. 902-012

Date: April 19, 1973

Time: Unknown between 11:08 am and 12:48 pm

Location: Oval Office

Stephen B. Bull and an unknown man met.

Request

-Airport

-[Unintelligible name]

Bull and the unknown man left an unknown time before 12:48 pm.

Conversation No. 902-005

Date: April 19, 1973

Time: Unknown between 12:29 pm and 12:48 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President and Ronald L. Ziegler entered. This recording began at an unknown time while the conversation was in progress.

Watergate

-John W. Dean, III

-Statement

-Contents

-Ziegler's response to possible questions

-Notification of Ziegler

-Christopher Leyen story in the *New York Times*

-Dean's activities

-Report



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-Meetings with President

-Dean

-Ziegler's response to possible questions

-Henry E. Petersen's opinion

-Instructions for Ziegler on telephone call

Ziegler talked with the White House operator at an unknown time between 12:29 pm and 12:48 pm.

[Conversation No. 902-005A]

[Begin telephone conversation]

[See Conversation No. 038-106]

[End telephone conversation]

Dean

Return call

Ziegler's statement

-President's authorization

Ziegler talked with Dean at an unknown time between 12:29 pm and 12:48 pm.

[Conversation No. 902-005B]

[Begin telephone conversation]

[Conversation No. 038-107]

[End telephone conversation]

Watergate

-Ziegler's conversation with Dean



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- Story about Dean
- Magruder [?]

President's meeting with Jewish leaders

- Soviet Jews
- Ziegler's forthcoming press briefing
 - Soviet Union [USSR]
 - Communication
 - Exemption
 - United States [US] cooperation
 - Freedom of emigration

Watergate

- Dean
 - President's public posture
 - Conversation with President, March 21, 1973
 - President's reaction
 - Dean's report
 - Possible indictment
 - Conversations with President concerning Watergate
 - President's previous public statement
 - William L. Safire's column
 - Washington Post* editorial
 - President's April 19, 1973, conversation with Petersen
 - Dean's role in Watergate
 - Immunity
 - Corroborative evidence
 - Haldeman and Ehrlichman
- Reports
 - President
 - Ehrlichman and Haldeman
 - Ziegler
 - President's August 29, 1972, statement
- Role in investigation after March 21
- E. Howard Hunt, Jr.
- Role in Watergate



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- President's conversation with Petersen
 - Haldeman and Ehrlichman
 - Grand Jury
- Presidential initiative
 - Haldeman and Ehrlichman
 - Possible resignations
- Ziegler's forthcoming press briefing

Ziegler left at 12:48 pm.

Conversation No. 902-006

Date: April 19, 1973
 Time: Unknown between 12:48 pm and 1:03 pm
 Location: Oval Office

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift during chronological review 2007-2013]

Refreshment [?]

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 1:03 pm.

Conversation No. 902-007



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Date: April 19, 1973

Time: Unknown between 12:48 pm and 1:03 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

President's schedule

-John D. Ehrlichman [?]

Watergate

-Dean's statement

-Copy

-Ehrlichman

The unknown person left at an unknown time before 1:03 pm.

Conversation No. 902-008

Date: April 19, 1973

Time: Unknown between 12:48 pm and 1:03 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

John W. Dean, III's statement

Bull left at an unknown time before 1:03 pm.

Conversation No. 902-009

Date: April 19, 1973



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Time: 1:03 pm - 1:30 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with John D. Ehrlichman.

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[Begin transcribed portion]

[End transcribed portion]

Ehrlichman left at 1:30 pm.

Conversation No. 902-010

Date: April 19, 1973

Time: Unknown between 1:30 pm and 1:36 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

Delivery to Executive Office Building [EOB]

President's schedule

-Sanchez's telephone calls to Tricia Nixon Cox and Julie Nixon Eisenhower

-Trip to Florida

-Executive Office Building [EOB]



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-Sanchez's attendance [?]

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 1:36 pm.

Conversation No. 902-013

Date: April 19, 1973

Time: Unknown between 1:30 pm and 1:36 pm.

Location: Oval Office

Unknown men met.

Instruction [?]

-Picture [?]

-Agent [?]

-Request [?]

President's location

-Executive Office Building [EOB]

-Sergeant [last name unknown]

Executive Office Building [EOB]

-Written note

The unknown men left at an unknown time before 1:36 pm.