



Conversation No.525-001

Conversation No.525-002

Conversation No. 525-001

Date: June 17, 1971  
Time: 5:15 pm - 6:10 pm  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Rose Mary Woods.

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*[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 02/13/2018. 2m 13s segment cleared for release. 4s remain closed as 525-001-w001.]*

[Personal Returnable]  
[525-001-w001]  
[Duration: 2m 13s]

President's schedule  
-Helene and Jack Drown

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1  
[Personal Returnable]  
[525-001-w001]  
[Duration: 4s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO.1

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President's schedule



- Rose Mary Woods conversation with Thelma C. ("Pat") (Ryan) Nixon
  - Dinner arrangements
- Lucy Alexander Winchester's schedule
  - Conversation with Helene Drown

Thelma C. ("Pat") (Ryan) Nixon's schedule

- Florida trip
  - Packing
  - Drown's potential travel
  - President's opinion

H.R. ("Bob") Haldeman entered at 5:16 PM

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Woods left and John D. Ehrlichman and Henry A. Kissinger entered at 5:17 pm.

Pentagon Papers

- Administration response
  - John N. Mitchell's court efforts
  - William P. Rogers' statement
    - Need to win court case and public relations case
    - John B. Connally
  - Rogers' statement
    - Quality
  - Lyndon B. Johnson comments
    - Possible press conference
    - Bryce N. Harlow's role
    - Kissinger's previous call to Lyndon B. Johnson
- Effect on administration
  - Personnel
    - Connally
    - Spiro T. Agnew
    - Gen. George A. Lincoln
  - General view of President's position
    - Connally
  - Attack on Presidency
  - Attack on Nixon and Johnson



- Rebuttal by administration
  - Media coverage
  - Criteria for *New York Times* coverage
- Desirability of comment by President
  - Possible space
  - Rogers' statement
    - Letters to Senators
  - Legality of comments
    - Court case
    - Kissinger's statement
      - Quality
      - Content
  - Need for comment by President
  - Proper scope
    - Outline
  - Scope
  - Preparation
  - Coverage by "Northeastern press"
    - New York Times*
- President's comments on security
  - Follow up
- Debriefing of employees
- Enforcement of security laws
- Responsibility of office heads for security
- Timing of administration counter
- Connally's action
  - Meeting with staff
    - Treasury Department relations with the press
    - Consequences of leaks

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[*Previous PRMPA Privacy (D) reviewed under PRMPA regulations 12/01/2017. Segment cleared for release.*]

[Privacy]

[525-001-w007]

[Duration: 35s]



Pentagon Papers

- Administration response
  - John B. Connally's action
    - Meeting with staff
      - Charls E. Walker
        - Trouble with facts
- Staffing

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Pentagon Papers

- Administration response
  - President's remarks
  - Issuance of memorandum
    - Content
    - Ehrlichman's role
  - Times use of press cards
    - Mitchell
    - Reprinting problem
  - Times action
- Haldeman's follow up to Congress
- Daniel Ellsberg's story
  - Washington Star
  - Kissinger's remembrance of Ellsberg
    - Vietnam service
    - General demeanor
    - International Security Affairs [ISA] background at the Department of Defense
    - John J. McNaughton
    - Intellect
    - Change of political opinion
    - Contact during transition

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[Previous PRMPA Privacy (D) reviewed under PRMPA regulations 12/01/2017. Segment cleared for release.]



[Privacy]  
[525-001-w002]  
[Duration: 17s]

- Pentagon Papers
  - Administration response
  - Potential drug use
  - The President's desired use of information

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- Pentagon Papers
  - Administration response
    - Contact with Henry A. Kissinger
      - Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT] speech by Kissinger
      - Ellsberg heckling
      - "Murder in Laos" article
    - Obtaining documents
    - Research and Development Corporation [RAND] copies of Vietnam story
      - Ellsberg action compared to Alger Hiss and Whitaker Chambers action
    - Reason for Ellsberg action
    - Reason for *Times* action
    - Opposition to President's Vietnam policy

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*[Previous PRMPA Privacy (D) reviewed under PRMPA regulations 12/01/2017. Segment cleared for release.]*

[Privacy]  
[525-001-w003]  
[Duration: 15s]

- Pentagon Papers
  - Administration response
  - Potential drug use
  - The President's response

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## Pentagon Papers

- Administration response
  - President's comments
    - Ehrlichman's role
  - Haldeman's role
    - Remarks
    - Patrick J. Buchanan
  - Kissinger's comments at North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] lunch
    - Response
  - Remarks by President
    - Content of papers
    - Principle of secrecy
  - Times* determination of national interest
  - Embarrassment of Johnson and John F. Kennedy
  - Defense of principle
    - Reaction to loss of security
    - President's legal obligations
      - Reasons for the law
      - Congressional mandate
      - Kissinger memo
    - Declassification procedures
  - Case before Supreme Court
    - Possible action by the President
  - Need for remarks by President
    - Impact
  - Rogers' statement
    - Impact
    - Content
      - Political predispositions of authors, et al.
      - Conviction of Johnson
      - Relation to Joseph McCarthy era
        - Prosecution for advice
        - Times*' previous view
      - Lack of content
  - Stewart J.O. Alsop editorial
    - Times* previous stance on security of communication
    - Adlai E. Stevenson, III and Kennedy



- Use by administration
  - Timing
- Need for running battle
  - Ronald L. Ziegler and Herbert G. Klein view
  - Restriction of *Times* reporters
- Attacks from other papers
- McCarthy era analogy
- Richard M. Helms comments
  - Times* interpretation of morality
    - Stevenson
    - Johnson
    - Selective embarrassment
- Times* interpretation of First Amendment rights
- Times* wrongdoing
- Times* responsibility
- Johnson's action
- Robert S. McNamara
  - Rebuttal
    - Position as president of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development [World Bank]
    - Loyalty to Johnson
- McGeorge Bundy comment
  - Attack on Johnson
- Kennedy
  - Ngo Dinh Diem death
    - Henry Cabot Lodge and Kennedy's role
- William Moyers
- Diem death
  - President's revelation
- Constraints of lawsuit
- Diem death
  - President's knowledge

Ziegler entered at an unknown time after 5:17 pm.

#### Legislation

- Defeat of anti-war bills
- Margin



Ziegler left at an unknown time before 6:13 pm.

Pentagon Papers

- Bombing halt file
  - Relation to Lyndon B. Johnson's statement
  - Attempts to obtain it
  - Tom Charles Huston recollections
    - Brookings role
  - Implementation of Huston plan
  - Johnson's concern
    - Timing of bombing
    - Content
      - W. Averell Harriman
  - Effects of release
    - Johnson's reaction
  - Harlow contact with Johnson

Upcoming Vice Presidential trip

- Harlow's attendance
  - Harlow's role
    - Agnew
    - Korea

Pentagon Papers

- Agnew's role
  - Recent performances
  - Ehrlichman contact with Agnew
    - Future Agnew role
- Robert J. Dole
- Agnew attacks on *Times*
- Nelson A. Rockefeller attacks on *Times*
  - Role of advertisers
    - Bonwit Teller
- Administration attack
  - Role of sources
  - Treasury Department role
  - Council Economic Advisers [CEA]
    - George P. Shultz
    - Connally





White House Tapes of the Nixon Administration, 1971-1973  
Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, NARA Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 597542

- Maurice H. Stans
- Elliot L. Richardson
- George W. Romney
- John A. Volpe
- Rogers C.B. Morton
- John N. Mitchell
- Ken Martin (“Ken”) Worthy [?]
  - Morton contacts
- Morton
- Melvin R. Laird
- Rogers
  - Willingness to join attack
  - Ending backgrounders
- "Good" reporters
  - Max Frankel
- Mitchell
- Stans
- Connally
- Dole
- Republican National Committee contact with *Times*
  - Franklyn C. Nofziger
  - Effect on Stewart Lurie
  - Effect on columnists
- Other contacts with *Times*
  - Ziegler's tactics
  - Return of calls
  - Kissinger action
  - National Security Council [NSC] staff
  - Media fallout
    - Need for perseverance
- James B. (“Scotty”) Reston
  - Position
    - Barry M. Goldwater
- Contact with *Times* competition
  - Daily News*
    - Jerry Greene action
  - Chicago Tribune* reaction to *Times* story
  - Bill Mullen (?) reaction
  - James S. Copley, Richard Wilson, William Randolph Hearst, Jr. reaction



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- Contact with Hearst
  - Los Angeles Times* reaction
- Policing of press
- Times* and White House relationship
  - Future relations
  - Access to Oval Office
- Upcoming trips
  - Times* travel courtesies
- Eastern liberal press
  - White House contact with Clark M. Clifford
  - Extent of information from
  - Congressional statements
- Effect on Hubert H. Humphrey
  - Humphrey comments
  - Effect of Vietnam study on behavior
- Effect on Edward M. ("Ted") Kennedy
  - Support for McNamara
  - Times* material on Kennedy administration activities
    - Use by President
    - Henry Cabot Lodge's role
    - Ngo Dinh Diem file
      - Kennedy activity
      - Lodge evidence
      - Lodge position on release of evidence
      - Kennedy's communication with Lodge
      - Consequences of coup
- Action against the *Times*
- Severity of *Times* transgression
- Press double standard
- Expected *Times* actions
  - White House files
    - Kissinger staff checks
  - Set up of files
    - Helmut ("Hal") Sonnenfeldt
      - Access to Kissinger conversations with Anatoliy F. Dobrynin
    - Sonnenfeldt duties
    - William A.K. ("Tony") Lake access
- Edmund S. Muskie reaction to *Times* story
- Humphrey reaction



- Johnson's position
  - Support for Ted Kennedy
  - Support for Humphrey
- McNamara's statement
  - Humphrey knowledge of Vietnam activities
  - Johnson
- Agnew exposure to White House tactics
- Humphrey statement
  - "Need to know" doctrine
  - Johnson's Vietnam judgement
- US actions
  - Rogers and Laird
  - World War II
  - Korea
  - Vietnam
    - President's questions
      - Tactics
      - Kissinger's recollection
    - "Purpose" of U.S. action
    - Methods
    - Goals

- Drug policy statement
  - Play in media

- Rochester trip
  - Kenneth B. Keating invitation
  - Congressional contacts during trip
  - Keating
    - Performance

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*[Previous National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2012-002. Segment declassified on 12/01/2017. Archivist: JD]*

[National Security]

[525-001-w006]

[Duration: 49s]



- Indian diplomatic skills
  - Kenneth B. Keating
    - Age
  - Flattery
    - Effect on survival
  - Indian women
    - The President's opinion

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- Pakistan
  - Life* magazine issue

- US and Federal Republic of Germany relations
  - Willy Brandt
  - Kissinger's conversation with Egon Bahr
    - Purchase of aircraft

- Pentagon Papers
  - Effect on White House enemies
  - Haldeman
  - Need for White House attack
  - Reduction of ambassadorial access to *Times*
    - D. Kenneth Rush
    - Ellsworth F. Bunker
    - Arthur K. Watson

Kissinger left at 6:05 pm.

Haldeman and Ehrlichman left at 6:07 pm.

Alexander P. Butterfield entered at 6:07 pm.

[Signing of documents]

- President's schedule
  - Rochester schedule



White House Tapes of the Nixon Administration, 1971-1973  
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-Action folders

Marjorie P. Acker entered at 6:09 pm.

Rose Mary Woods' schedule  
-Executive Office Building [EOB] meeting with President

The President, et al. left at 6:10 pm.

[Conversation No. 525-002](#)

Date: Unknown between June 17 and June 18, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 6:13 pm, June 17 and 8:40 am, June 18, 1971  
Location: Oval Office

Unknown people [Secret Service agents ?] met.

President's location  
-Executive Office Building [EOB]

Unknown people [Secret Service?] left at an unknown time before 8:40 am, June 18, 1971.