



NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log
(rev. 10/08)

Conversation No. 525-1

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

The President met with Rose Mary Woods.

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 2m 17s]

HENRY A. KISSINGER ENTERED AT 5:16 PM

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

Woods left and John D. Ehrlichman and H.R. ("Bob") Haldeman 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

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- 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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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 7

[Privacy]

[Duration: 35s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 7

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

- 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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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

[Privacy]

[Duration: 17s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

- 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

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

[Privacy]

[Duration: 15s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

- 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

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- 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

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- 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

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

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

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Upcoming Vice Presidential trip

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

Pentagon Papers

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- 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
 - 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

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- 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
 - 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

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- 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

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

*****Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)*****

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 6
 [National Security]
 [Duration: 49s]

INDIA

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 6

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.

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Alexander P. Butterfield entered at 6:07 pm.

[Signing of documents]

President's schedule
-Rochester schedule
-Action folders

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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. 525-2

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.