



NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log (rev. 10/06)

Conversation No. 657-1

Date: January 26, 1972
Time: 5:05 pm - 6:17 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Henry A. Kissinger.
[Recording begins while the conversation is in progress]

Vietnam

- Press response to the President's peace plan proposal speech, January 25, 1972
 - Benjamin C. Bradlee
 - Donald Oberdorfer, Jr.
- North Vietnam's reaction to publication of terms
- US negotiating
- Strategy
 - Seven points
 - Liberals
 - Kissinger's press conference, January 26, 1972
 - Public and private positions
 - North Vietnam's reaction to publication of terms
 - William J. Porter
 - Hardline
 - Ceasefire
 - 1970
 - North Vietnamese goals
 - US surrender
 - Communist government in South Vietnam
 - Self-determination
 - Public relations
 - Kissinger's forthcoming message to Porter
- Ellsworth F. Bunker
 - Message
 - Message from the President
 - Support for the President's Vietnam speech
- Media response to the President's peace proposal speech
 - North Vietnam's reaction to publication of terms
 - US public relations plans
 - US surrender
- US negotiating strategy
 - William Moyers
 - Washington Post*

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- New York Times*
- Editorial
- Tone
- Forthcoming briefing by Kissinger
- Timing
- Content

Page Belcher and the White House photographer entered and Kissinger left at 5:12 pm.

Photograph session

Visit from Dutch Prime Minister [Berand W. Biesheuvel]

[Photograph session]

The White House photographer left at 5:12 pm.

- Tulsa Hospital
- Clark MacGregor
- Cost
- Meaning

[The President talked with the White House operator at an unknown time between 5:12 pm and 5:14 pm.]

[Conversation No. 657-1A]

[See Conversation No. 19-122]

[End of telephone conversation]

- Tulsa Hospital
- Belcher's talk with MacGregor
- Signing
- History

[The President talked with MacGregor between 5:14 pm and 5:15 pm.]

[Conversation No. 657-1B]

[See Conversation No. 19-123]

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

[End of telephone conversation]

Mary C. Higgins

- Call from the President
- Support for the President
 - 1962 California gubernatorial campaign
 - The President's comments to the press
 - Belcher's comment to Thelma C. ("Pat") Nixon
- Religion
- Beliefs regarding the President's future in politics
- Death
 - Cancer
- Call from the President
- Performance as Belcher's assistant
- Rose Mary Woods's view
- Marital status

Political friendship

- Belcher's support for the President

Agriculture Department

- Earl L. Butz
- Clifford M. Hardin
- Butz
- Ezra Taft Benson
 - Belcher's support
- Butz
- Clarence D. Palmby

The President's 1952 fund

- Belcher's telegrams
 - Dwight D. Eisenhower, Republican National Committee, Robert A. Taft, Sr.
- Belcher's speech
- The President's *Checkers* speech
 - Congressional dealings
 - Scandal

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

Agriculture

- Butz
 - Farm spending
- Congressional relations
 - George D. Aiken
 - Jack R. Miller
 - Barry M. Goldwater
- Reserve bill
 - Defeat
 - Vote
 - Milton R. Young
 - Carl T. Curtis
 - Hubert H. Humphrey
 - George S. McGovern
 - Veto
- Costs
 - Purchase, storage
- House of Representatives
 - Committee
 - Floor
 - Republican votes
 - Belcher's schedule
 - New York
- Butz
 - Talk with Belcher, January 25, 1972
 - Hyde H. Murray
- Hardin
- Butz
 - Call to Belcher
- Farm bill
 - Costs
 - Belcher's efforts
 - Farm losses
 - Welfare
- Agricultural support
 - Congressional voting
 - Miller
 - Belcher's voting record
 - Miller
 - Vietnam
 - Belcher

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- Congressional support for administration
 - Senate
 - Henry L. Bellmon
 - House of Representatives
- House leadership
 - Gerald R. Ford, Leslie C. Arends and Barber B. Conable, Jr.
 - Support for Belcher
 - Butz
 - Leadership meetings
 - The President's Vietnam peace proposal speech
 - Goldwater
 - Belcher's attendance
- Belcher's past contacts with Presidents
 - Present administration
 - Compared to Eisenhower Administration
 - Golf

Golf

Belcher's health

- Blood pressure
- Doctors' advice
 - Golf
- Golf
 - Partners
 - Arends
 - Ford
 - Lobbyists
- Age
- Golf
 - Doctor's advice
 - Courses
 - Florida, Air Force Academy

Congressional relations

- Past contacts with White House
- Voting record
 - Farm bills
 - Political effect on Belcher
 - Ford
 - Miller

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- Young
- Butz
 - Criticism
 - Hardin
 - Benson
 - William J. Scherle
 - Request for resignation
 - Orville L. Freeman
 - Democrats
- Farmers
 - Belcher's career
 - Belcher's father
 - Position
 - Ross Rizley
- Farm bill
 - Hardin
 - Benson
 - Joseph W. Martin, Jr.
 - Hardin
 - Support
 - Democrats
 - Carl B. Albert
 - Republicans
 - Belcher's actions
 - Effect on the President, Hardin
 - Introduction
 - Bipartisanship
 - Amendments
 - White House desires
 - Sugar bill
 - Pesticide bill
 - Committee vote
 - Floor vote
- Hardin
 - Reason for leaving

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

[Privacy]

[Duration: 3s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

- Replacement
- Ralston-Purina job

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4

[Privacy]

[Duration: 4s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4

- Age
- Contact with Belcher
- Corn prices
- Butz
 - Ralston-Purina
- Confirmation
- Relations with Belcher
 - Meetings
 - Frequency
- William R. Poage
- Poage
 - Relations with Belcher
 - House agriculture committee

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- House agriculture committee
 - Scherle
- Wiley Mayne
- H[arold] R. Gross
- Miller
- John H. Kyl
- Scherle
- Mayne
- Harold E. Hughes
- Miller
- John Sherman Cooper
- Miller
- Belcher's role
- John C. Whitaker

Stephen B. Bull [?] entered at an unknown time after 5:15 pm.

The President's schedule

Bull [?] left at an unknown time before 5:48 pm.

Belcher's support of administration

- Whitaker
- Opinion on politics
 - Bryce N. Harlow
 - Belcher's wife and Harlow's father
- Belcher's efforts to contact the President
 - The President's word
- Whitaker
- Butz
 - Farm bills

Football

- Belcher

Murray, Butz and MacGregor entered at 5:48 pm.

Whitaker's schedule

The President's relationship with Belcher

- Butz contact

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- House agriculture committee
- Belcher's support for the Administration
 - Political effect
- Hardin

Farm Bill

- Belcher's opinion
 - Budget increase
- Future relationships
 - Poage
 - Miller
- Reelections
 - Curtis
- Scherle
 - Forthcoming breakfast meeting
 - 1972
 - Miller
 - Announcement

Tulsa Hospital

- Governor [David Hall]
 - Signing
- Public relations
 - The President's meeting with Belcher
- Signing of mortgage guarantee
- St. John's Hospital
 - Catholics

Whitaker entered at 5:55 pm.

Agriculture

- Whitaker
 - Belcher
 - Contact with the President
 - 1972
- Congressional leadership meeting
 - Belcher's attendance
 - Political cheerleading
 - Benefits
 - Goldwater
 - Football metaphor

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- Cattle import from Italy
 - Quarantine
 - Duration
 - Location
 - New Jersey
- Belcher's outlook
 - Politics
- Corn prices
- National Wheat Growers Association
 - Denver
 - American Farm Bureau Federation [AFBF]
 - Butz's talk with unknown person
- Administration program
 - Popularity
 - Oklahoma
 - Bellmon
 - Belcher's talk with AFBF
 - Milk producers
 - Cattlemen
- Corn prices
 - Prospects
- Acre reduction in feed grains
 - Forthcoming farmers' intentions report
 - Timing
 - Changes
 - Spending
 - Butz's talk with the President, November 1971
 - Bill
 - Political effect in Senate
- Long range plans
 - Need for secrecy
 - Soviet package
 - Foreign policy
 - Farm vote
 - Maurice H. Stans
- Farmers' vote
 - Albert H. Quie
 - John Zwach
 - Quie
 - Meetings
 - Dairy farmers

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- National Farmers Organization [NFO]
- National Farmers Union [NFU]

Congressional relations

- Belcher
- Harlow
- The President's contacts with Congressmen
 - The President's morale
- Votes
 - Belcher
 - Clement F. Haynsworth
 - G. Harrold Carswell
 - [Unknown person]
- Belcher
 - Power behind the scenes
- The President's contact with Congressmen
- Belcher
 - Prior support
 - Contacts in Congress
 - Belcher's philosophy
- Rural development legislation
 - Forthcoming message
 - Humphrey
 - White House strategy
- Belcher's support for administration
 - Contact with the Administration
 - Administration's requests
 - Gratitude
- Benson
 - Belcher
 - H. Carl Andersen of Minnesota

Bull entered at an unknown time after 5:55 pm.

Belcher's staff

- Gifts
 - Money clip
 - Presidential seal
 - Previous visit from Biesheuvel

Bull left at an unknown time before 6:16 pm.

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Vietnam negotiations

-Hanoi's reaction to US proposal

Letters to Democrat presidential candidates

-Ford

-Albert

-Budget plan

-F. Edward Hebert

-George H. Mahon

-Gillespie V. Montgomery

-Albert

-John W. McCormack

-Congressional majority

-Hugh Scott and Ford

Belcher, et al. left and Alexander P. Butterfield and Stephen B. Bull entered at 6:16 pm.

Nomination for the President's signature

The President's schedule

-Forthcoming telephone call

Manolo Sanchez entered at an unknown time after 6:16 pm.

Delivery of item

Coat

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 6:17 pm.

Item for the President's signature

Dr. W. Kenneth Riland

Belcher

-Air Force One

-Relationship with the President

Telephone call

-Kissinger

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

The President, *et al.* left at 6:17 pm.

Conversation No. 657-2

Date: January 26, 1972

Time: Unknown between 6:17 pm and 11:59 pm

Location: Oval Office

Alexander P. Butterfield me with unknown people.

[Unintelligible]

The President's location

[Unintelligible]

Butterfield and the unknown people left at an unknown time before 11:59 pm.