



## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
(rev. 10/06)

Conversation No. 710-1

Date: April 17, 1972

Time: 4:56 pm - unknown before 4:59 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

The President's schedule

-Meeting with Henry A. Kissinger

-Time

Bull left at an unknown time before 4:59 pm.

Conversation No. 710-2

Date: April 17, 1972

Time: Unknown after 4:56 pm until 4:59 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Alexander P. Butterfield.

[Signing documents]

The President talked with the White House operator at an unknown time between 4:56 and 4:59 pm.

[Conversation No. 710-2A]

[See Conversation No. 23-9]

[End of telephone conversation]

The President's schedule

-Tuesday event

-Time

Butterfield left at 4:59 pm.

## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
*(rev. 10/06)*

Conversation No. 710-3

Date: April 17, 1972  
 Time: 4:59 pm - 5:02 pm  
 Location: Oval Office

The President talked with Tricia Nixon Cox.

[See Conversation No. 23-10]

Conversation No. 710-4

Date: April 17, 1972  
 Time: 5:02 pm - 5:50 pm  
 Location: Oval Office

The President met with Henry A. Kissinger.

Vietnam

- Kissinger's conversation with John A. Scali
  - The president's meeting with People's Republic of China [PRC] table tennis team
  - Location of possible match
  - Problems
  - Possible cancellation
  - Announcement
  - Possible cancellation
- Moscow trip
  - Bombing in North Vietnam
- Bombing
  - Risks
  - Consequences
    - Kissinger's and the president's soviet trips
  - Necessity
    - Kissinger's conversation with Stewart J.O. Alsop
- The President's Soviet trip
  - Scali
- Visit of People's Republic of China [PRC] team
  - Possible cancellation
- Michael J. Mansfield's trip to PRC

## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
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Conv. No. 710-4 (cont.)

- Possible cancellation
  - Hong Kong stopover
  - Mansfield's arrival in PRC
- Table tennis match
  - Scali's memorandum
- The President's meeting with Melvin R. Laird and Thomas H. Moorer
  - Kissinger's handling

H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman entered at 5:10 pm.

## PRC

- Table tennis team visit and match
  - Arrangements
  - Possible cancellation of meeting with the President
  - Arrangements
  - Announcement
- Possible actions
  - Meeting with the President
  - Cancellation of team's tour
- Arrangements for team's visit and match
  - Scali's memorandum
  - Setting
  - Time
  - Tour of White House
  - Meeting with the president
  - Graham B. Steenhoven
  - Greetings
  - Chuang Tse-tung
- Table tennis team
  - Schedule
  - Tricia Nixon Cox's attendance at match
- Statements on US bombing of North Vietnam

Haldeman left at 5:12 pm.

## Vietnam

- Meeting with Laird and Moorer
- Length

Laird and Moorer entered at 5:13 pm.

## Greetings

## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
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Conv. No. 710-4 (cont.)

William M. Colmer luncheon

Vietnam

- Laird's testimony
  - Coordination with William P. Rogers's and the President's statements
  - Possible questions
    - Vietnamization
    - Failure
    - South Vietnamese performance
    - North Vietnamese invasion
    - Modern Soviet equipment
- Military operations
  - Soviet equipment
  - US bombing
  - South Vietnamese performance
    - New South Vietnamese division
      - Offensive
      - Demilitarized zone [DMZ]
      - Hue
      - Movement
      - Damage to North Vietnam
    - Fifth South Vietnamese division
      - Improvements
      - Commander
        - Change
      - An loc
        - Tanks
        - Air support
    - Air cover
      - South Vietnamese Air Force
        - Capabilities
        - Sorties
          - Number
      - B-52s
      - TACAIR
    - Damage to North Vietnam
    - South Vietnamese performance
  - Laird's testimony
    - Future fighting
    - South Vietnamese performance
      - Capabilities

## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
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Conv. No. 710-4 (cont.)

- Destruction of tanks
  - Figures
  - Weapons used
  - Antitank capabilities
- Nguyen Van Thieu
- South Vietnamese tanks
  - Number
  - Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Jr.
  - Combat teams
- Military Region Two
  - Irregular forces
- An loc, Hue and other cities
  - Difficulties
  - South Vietnamese responsibilities
  - US support
- North Vietnamese invasion
  - Importance
  - Compared with Tet offensive
  - Casualties
  - US and South Vietnam
- US forces
  - Ground elements
  - Press
    - Medal and citation to unknown Lieutenant Colonel
- South Vietnamese performance
  - Improvements
- Laird's testimony
  - Bombing
    - Military targets
    - Military installations
  - Nuclear weapons
    - Exclusion
  - Bombing
    - Targets
    - Hanoi and Haiphong
- Soviets
  - Ships to North Vietnam
  - Caution
- Negotiations
  - Rogers and Laird testimony
  - Laird position
  - Conditions

## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
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Conv. No. 710-4 (cont.)

- Duress
- Need for substance
  - Edmund S. Muskie proposal
- Cease-fire
- North Vietnamese invasion
  - DMZ
  - Illegality
  - Continuation
  - US reaction
    - Support for South Vietnam
    - Protection for US personnel
    - Curb of aggression
  - South Vietnamese performance
- Cease-fire
  - US support
  - Risks
    - US personnel
    - South Vietnamese
- North Vietnamese invasion
  - Congress
  - Antiwar resolution
    - Condemnation of invasion
    - Bias
    - Charge of assisting the enemy
- Public relations
  - Television
  - Laird
  - John C. Stennis
    - Appearance on *Today Show*
  - F. Edward Hebert
  - Nelson A. Rockefeller
  - Stennis and Hebert
  - Hawks
    - Television appearances
- US policies
  - Congressional support
    - Possible erosion
    - Laos operation
- Naval action
  - Blockade
    - Further discussion
  - Newport News*

## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
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Conv. No. 710-4 (cont.)

- Other cruisers
- Effectiveness
  - Cruisers
- US forces
  - Strengthening
    - Public statements
    - Confidentiality
    - Number of ships
- Navy forces
  - North Vietnamese knowledge
    - Carriers
      - Panama Canal
      - Cape Hope
      - Arrival
- North Vietnamese invasion
  - Withdrawals
    - US strikes
- South Vietnamese performance
  - Air sorties
    - Effectiveness
  - Aircraft
    - Maintenance
    - Training
  - US goals
  - US support
- Prisoners of war [POWs]
  - Return
- Negotiations
  - Conditions
  - Previous discussions
    - Failures
  - North Vietnamese invasion
    - Withdrawals
    - DMZ
    - US position
  - Soviets
    - Support of North Vietnam
    - US reaction
- US credibility
  - Middle East
    - Surface to air missile [SAMs]
    - United Arab Republic

## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

**Tape Subject Log**  
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Conv. No. 710-4 (cont.)

- North Vietnamese aggression
  - Risks
  - Precedents
    - Soviets
    - US response
- Vietnamization
  - South Vietnamese performance
    - Press reports
    - Errors
    - Success of program
- Military operations
  - An loc
    - South Vietnamese control
    - North Vietnamese assaults
    - 21st South Vietnamese division
    - Roads
      - Clearance
    - North Vietnamese units
      - 271st regiment
      - Artillery and tanks
- US Armed Forces
  - Honor and confidence of public
- Blockade
  - Imposition
    - Time
  - Mining
    - Advantages
  - Advantages
    - Selectivity
  - Mining
    - Disadvantages
      - Elimination
      - Small ships
      - Supplies
  - US equipment
- Military operation against the Do Son Peninsula
  - Commander [Forename unknown] Moss
    - Rescue from water

## US Navy

- Practice
- Colebra



## NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log  
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Conv. No. 710-4 (cont.)

-Ecological concerns

Vietnam

-US operations

The President's schedule

-Dinner with relatives

The President, Kissinger, Laird and Moorer left at 5:50 pm.

Conversation No. 710-5

Date: April 17, 1972

Time: Unknown between 5:50 pm and 11:59 pm

Location: Oval Office

Unknown persons met.

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

[Non-historical returnable]

[Duration: 43s]

THE PRESIDENT'S LOCATION

THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

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The conversation was cut off at an unknown time before 11:59 pm.