Conversation No. 57-1

Date: May 13, 1971
Time: 12:22 pm - 12:50 pm
Location: Cabinet Room

The President met with John B. Connally, James M. Roche, Terry Sanford, Dewey F. Bartlett, John E. Robson, Walter N. Thayer, James Finch, Murray Comarow, Francis A. Coy, Betty Furness, Ben W. Heineman, J. Erik Jonsson, Franklin A. Lindsay, Leonard H. Marks, Newton Minow, General Lauris Norstad, Richard M. Paget, Jack S. Parker, James J. Reynolds, Allen P. Stults, and Andrew J. Young, Jr.; the White House photographer was present at the beginning of the meeting.

Greetings and introductions

[General conversation]

Position of the dollar

Photo arrangements

The White House photographer left at an unknown time before 12:22 pm

Work of committee

Government reorganization
  - Congress
    - State of the Union address
    - Ash Council
  - Previous studies
  - Administration actions
  - Possibility of passage in Congress
  - President’s conversations
    - Connally’s conversations
    - John L. McClellan
    - Chet Holifield
  - Prospects of passage
  - Importance
  - Work of committee
  - Congress
    - Holifield
    - [Name unintelligible] of Nebraska
-Revenue sharing
  -Wilbur D. Mills
  -Welfare reform
-Credit
-[Unintelligible]
-Baseball
-Thayer
-Connally
-Prospects
  -Connally
-Lindsay, Heineman
-Thayer, Paget, Comarow
  -Ash Council
-Heinemann Report, Lindsay Report
-Ash Council
-Commission
-Need
  -Jonsson’s work in Dallas
-Administration’s plan
  -Departments
  -President’s role
    -Family assistance and revenue sharing plans
  -Congress
  -President’s role
-Sanford’s work in North Carolina, Minnow’s work at Federal Communications Commission, Marks’ work at United States Information Agency
  -Need
  -Departments
  -Basis for recommendations
  -Effect
    -Congress
      -American people
  -Need
-Congress
  -Work
    -Public opinion
-Administration’s plan
-Need
-Prospects of passage
  -Compared with revenue sharing
-Size of departments
  -Compared with General Motors
NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIAL STAFF

Tape Subject Log
(rev. 10/08)

- Need
  - Changes in institutions
- Table in Cabinet Room
  - President’s role, cost
  - Jesse H. Jones of Franklin D. Roosevelt administration
  - Size
- Treaty Room
  - Lincoln Bedroom, Queen’s Bedroom
  - Cabinet table for Abraham Lincoln period
- Table in Cabinet Room
  - Jones’ table
  - Current table
- President’s schedule
  - Cabinet
  - Connally, William P. Rogers
  - Size of Cabinet
  - Independent agency heads
    - National Aeronautics and Space Administration [NASA]
    - Atomic Energy Commission
    - Veterans’ Administration
  - Congressmen
  - Size of Cabinet
  - Effect
- Dean G. Acheson
  - Forthcoming meeting on North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO]
  - Present at the creation

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France

[To listen to the segment (7s) declassified on 02/28/2002, please refer to RC# E-521.]

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- NATO, Marshall Plan
  - Prospects of implementation
  - Importance
  - Prospects for passage
Presentation of gifts by President

[General conversation/Unintelligible]

The President, *et al.* left at 12:50 pm

Date: May 13, 1971
Time: Unknown between 12:50 pm and 4:31 pm
Location: Cabinet Room

Unknown men [cleaning crew] entered at an unknown time after 12:50 pm

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Non-historical]
[Duration: 6m 32s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

The unknown men [cleaning crew] left at an unknown time before 4:31 pm
Conversation No. 57-3

Date: May 13, 1971
Time: 4:31 pm - 6:03 pm
Location: Cabinet Room

[Recording begins while the conversation is in progress]

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[Unintelligible]

Europe

International monetary situation

[To listen to the segment (1h18m18s) declassified on 02/28/2002, please refer to RC# E-521, E-522.]

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The President, et al. left at 6:03 pm
Date: May 14, 1971
Time: 10:37 am - 11:04 am
Location: Cabinet Room


Cabinet Room
-Furnishings
-[Thomas] Woodrow Wilson
-Visitors
-Furnishings
-Theodore (“Teddy”) Roosevelt
-Visitors
-President’s meeting on government reorganization, North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO], labor, business

The elderly
-President’s relatives
-Mother, father, aunt
-Importance
-Asian civilizations
-Public opinion
-Social services
-President’s views
-Flemming
-Cabinet service in Dwight D. Eisenhower administration
-Meeting agenda
-Fassen’s position [American Association of Retired Persons]
-Government programs
-Social Security
-Health care
-President’s proposed programs
-Medicare and Medicaid, health maintenance organizations
-Housing
-Taxes
-Transportation
- Needs
- Council on Aging
- Flemming’s role
  - White House Conference on Aging
  - Richardson
- Council on Aging

-Studies
- Preparation of papers
- Flemming’s staff

-Walters’ position [National Association of Retired Federal Employees]
  - Smith’s position
- President’s program
  - National Association of Retired Federal Employees’ position

-Flemming
- Needs
  - Finances, transportation, and housing
  - Health coverage

-Federal retirees
- Ages
- Finances

-Administration policy
- Flemming
- President’s relatives
- Walters’ mother

- Needs
  - Finances
  - Health care
  - Medicare

-Federal retirees
- Smith
- Social Security

-Meyer’s position [National Council on Aging and White House Task Force on Aging]

- Definition and numbers
- Possible national policy
  - White House Task Force on Aging

- Development of government programs
  - Social Security
  - Medicare

- Possible national policy
  - Public acceptance
  - Legislation
-Needs
-Unknown man’s position [President of National Council of Senior Citizens]
-Flemming
  -Unknown man’s acquaintance
-Letter to President from National Council of Senior Citizens

[Recording was cut off and resumed at an unknown time]

-White House Conference on Aging
-Needs
  -Finances
    -Social Security increases in 1969 and 1971
    -President’s veto threats
      -Riders
    -Ways and Means Committee vote
      -Administration position
        -Richardson
        -Republicans and Democrats
-Medicare
-President’s proposals
  -Private insurance industry
-Housing
  -Housing Act
  -Department of Housing and Urban Development
-Employment past retirement age
  -Social Security
  -Senior Aides program
-Transportation
-Consumer and legal protection
  -Government organization
    -Administration on Aging [AOA]
      -Foster Grandparents program
-Health care
  -Private insurance industry
  -Richardson
  -Allotments
  -Administration proposals
-Social Security
  -Cost-of-living increases
    -Labor contracts, productivity
    -House Resolution 1
    -George Meany
- National Retired Teachers Association
  - Needs
    - Government organization

President’s schedule
  - Rose Garden meeting with Volunteers for Foreign Aid [Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid]
    - Uses of Rose Garden
      - Tricia Nixon’s wedding
    - Churches
    - Red Cross
    - Private efforts

The elderly
  - Administration efforts
  - Needs
    - Finances, other domestic programs
    - Richardson, Shultz, Hodgson, Van Dusen, Romney, Volpe
  - Transportation
    - Public and private
    - Steps, buses, escalators
      - Improvements

President’s schedule
  - Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid

The elderly
  - Flemming, Martin
  - Cabinet’s concern

Presentation of gifts by President
  - Cufflinks
    - Patricia R. (“Pat”) Nixon
      - Presidential seal pin
    - Stephen B. Bull

The elderly
  - Administration’s concerns

[General conversation/Unintelligible]

The President, et al. left at 11:04 am