Date: March 13, 1973
Time: Unknown before 8:39 am until unknown after 11:00 am
Location: Cabinet Room


[General conversation/Unintelligible]

The President entered at 8:39 am

Cabinet table

Meetings with Republican congressional leadership
- Frequency
- Opportunities
- Recommendations
  - Attendance of freshmen
  - Bipartisan meetings
    - Henry M. (“Scoop”) Jackson

Agenda for current meeting
- Crime

Proposals to Congress
- Federal-State relations
  - Changes
    - Costs

Federal-State relations
- Aid to localities
  - Funds available
  - Federal bureaucracy
    - Resistance to changes
      - Reasons
-Budget
-Elitism
-Divestiture of power
  -Extent
  -Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD] and natural resources
  -Congress
  -Decisionmaking to localities
-Local government
  -Deficiencies
-Localities
  -Special interests
  -Influence
-Able leaders
  -Concentration in Washington, DC
  -Reasons
  -Concentration of power
  -The President’s meeting with mayors
  -Decisions on running for office
  -Roman S. Gribbs
-Decisionmaking power
  -Concentration in Washington, DC
-Administration proposals
  -Divestiture of power
  -Goals
  -Ability to determine priorities

Community development message
  -State of the Union
  -The President’s programs
  -Diversity of types of communities
  -Reversion of authority
-Better Communities Act
-Responsive Government Act
  -Goals of acts
  -Development of local capabilities
  -Spending levels
-Housing proposals
-Better Communities Act
  -Grant programs
  -Changes
-Special revenue sharing
-Restrictions
-New formula for determining funds
-Preparation of bill
-Transition from grants program
  -Plans
  -Problems
    -Housing
      -Funds available
-Expenditure levels
  -Maintenance of present levels
-Transitional problems
  -Mayors’ assessments
-Main thrust
  -Authority for mayors
  -Speed of funds to localities
-Passage by Congress
  -Joseph S. Montoya
    -Comments on local officials
-Local power

Responsive Government Act
  -Emphasis on local management
    -Planning
    -Budget analysts
    -Enhanced productivity

Housing
  -Starts
    -Increase
  -New procedures for obtaining funds
  -Budget commitments
  -Suspension of new subsidized housing
    -The President’s record
      -Increase in starts
    -Public housing
    -Problems
  -New proposals

Apportionment formula
  -Consultation with officials
  -Options
    -Problems
-Central cities
-Proposals to the President

Better Communities Act
-Passage by Congress
-Failure to pass
-Consequences
-Alternative actions
-Special revenue sharing
-Advantages of act
-Appropriations
-Action by committees
-Present funds
-Present needs
-Amount
-Compared with past appropriations
-Level of expenditures

-Urban renewal programs
-Transition funds
-State governors
-Federal employees
-Impact
-Reduction
-HUD
-Reduction
-Number

-Special revenue sharing
-Budget items
-Commitments
-New funds
-Office of Economic Opportunity [OEO] programs

-Model cities
-Use of funds for other items
-Urban renewal
-Responsibility for failures
-Reversion to localities

-Role of federal government
-Source of information and management advice
-Funding
-Model cities
-Grand Rapids and Seattle
Successes
- Philadelphia
- Local problems
  - Local decisionmaking by local priorities

Education
- Federal subsidies
- Elite institutions
  - Curtailment
  - Concentration of talent
  - Cutbacks
- Medical colleges
  - State subsidies
- Federal subsidies
  - Faculty members
  - Franklin D. Roosevelt’s administration
  - Opposition to the President
- Boon to small colleges
- Dwight D. Eisenhower’s administration
  - Ivy League presidents
  - Opposition to federal subsidies
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT]
  - Defense contracts
  - Opposition to national defense
  - Corruption of faculty members
- Robert A. Taft, Jr.
  - Opposition to federal aid
  - Danger of control
  - New approach to federal aid

Federal aid
- New Deal and Fair Deal
  - Money to individuals
- Trickle down theory
  - Programs
  - Bureaucracy
- Economic assistance
  - Money directly to local people
  - Help for poor and working people
  - Family assistance
  - Income strategy
- OEO
- Problems
  - Lyndon B. Johnson
- Survival of strongest agencies and programs
  - Roosevelt’s programs
    - New Deal
  - Social Security
- Money for localities
  - Amount for poor
  - Reduction in bureaucracy
- OEO
  - Reasons for complaints
  - Bureaucracy
    - Absorption of funds
    - Cutbacks
- Restraints in budget
  - Costs of inflation

Aid for localities
  - Democratic governors and mayors
  - Improvements in effectiveness
    - Need for initiative
    - Need to set priorities
  - Support for the President’s program
    - Democrats
      - Nelson A. Rockefeller
  - Crime prevention
    - Federal leadership

Areas for federal leadership
  - Death penalty
    - Supreme Court
    - State action
  - Drug abuse prevention
  - Death penalty
    - Hannah Milhous Nixon and Almira Burdg Milhous
    - Pacifist Quaker background
    - Controversy
      - Criminologists
    - The President’s conversations with J. Edgar Hoover
      - Kidnaping
    - Charles A. Lindbergh law
  - Pros and cons
-Drug abuse
  -Penalties
    -Debate over severity
  -The President’s meeting with narcotics agents
    -The President’s reaction
    -Death of an agent
      -President’s meeting with the Tummino family
  -Pushers
    -Source of crime
    -Penalties
  -Federal and state efforts
    -Rockefeller
  -Rehabilitation
  -Drug dealers and traffickers
    -Harsh penalties
  -Need for more severe penalties

-Crime
  -Impact on citizenry
    -Public support
  -Death penalty
    -Death of US ambassadors in Sudan
      -Need for hard line

Law enforcement
  -Petersen

Crime legislation
  -Highlights of package of bills
    -Names of bills
  -Amount of funds
  -Intent of bills
  -Reform of criminal code
    -Limitation of federal jurisdictions
      -Criminal law
    -Simplification of definitions
  -Reform of penalties
  -Death penalty
    -Supreme Court guidelines
      -Furman v. Georgia
        -Legal reasoning
  -Death penalty
    -Supreme Court
-Alignment of opinions
-New legislation
  -Procedures for imposition
-Heroin Trafficking Act
  -Changes in pre-trial procedures
    -Release of suspects
-Death penalty
  -Press reports
  -Supreme Court
    -Ruling on penalty
      -Application
      -Problems with *Furman v. Georgia* ruling
-Federal reorganization
  -Dual federalism
-Federal responsibilities in area of crime
-Death penalty statute
  -Supreme Court guidelines
    -Federal guidelines in statute
  -Treason
    -War crimes
      -Criteria for application
-Murder on federal property
-Treason
-Epionage
-Hijacking
  -Death occurs
-Kidnapping and assault on federal officers
  -Occurrence of death
    -Frank Tummino’s death
-Standards for application
  -Mitigating circumstances
-Hijacking
  -Conspiracy
    -Prime actor
-Narrow definition of law
-Hijacking
  -Incentive not to kill
-Criteria for application
-Reaction of juries
  -Reluctance
  -Washington, DC
-Hijacking
- Penalties
  - Latitude for negotiation
  - Incentive to prevent harm

- Death penalty
  - Killing of two Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents
  - Refusal of jury to use death penalty

- Drug abuse
  - Mandatory penalties
    - Rockefeller’s views
    - Administration’s position

- Death penalty
  - Killing of federal officer
    - Penalties
  - Organized crime
    - Penalties for narcotics traffic
    - Responsibility for crime
  - Conspiracy
    - Responsibility for acts of crime
    - Killings for hire
      - Use of death penalty against instigator
  - Criteria
    - Standards and mitigating circumstances
      - Juries
    - Administration’s position

- Delays in courts
  - Appeals process
  - Overcrowding
    - The President’s conversation with Warren E. Burger
  - Reforms to end delays
    - Federal courts
    - State courts
      - New York
  - Drug cases in New York
    - Easy penalties
      - Overcrowding in courts
      - Judge’s disposal of a case
  - Burger
  - Reforms in court
    - Changes in statutes
      - Congress
      - Habeas corpus problem
    - State courts
-Burger
- Tom Clark’s statements
- Law enforcement officials
- Support for administration
- Law and order
  - Respect by public
    - Clark
      - Statements on law
- Racism
  - Poor as victims of crime
- President’s position on crime
- Crime rates
  - Richard G. Kleindienst
  - Administration’s policies
  - Decline in cities
  - Concern for victims

Reform in criminal codes
- Judiciary committees
  - Delays
  - Pressure to work on crime bills
    - Supreme Court
- Need for action
  - Political benefits in urban areas
    - Concern about crime
      - Importance as issue
        - Other issues
          - Vietnam and the economy
- Crime as an issue
  - Public concern
    - Death of policemen and law enforcement agents
    - Drug abuse
      - Examples
  - Crime in cities
    - Decline in rate of increase
      - Credit for administration
- Administration’s policies
  - Sense of responsibility
- Law schools
  - Subjects taught
- Death penalty
- Minorities
- Equation of law and order with racism
- Victimization of crime
- Law schools
- Support for reforms
  - Need to speed up justice system

Criminal justice system
- Failures
  - Overcrowding
    - Federal judges
- Hearings in Senate Judiciary Committee
  - Title 18
  - John L. McClellan
  - Bill for Congress
    - Death penalty
    - Federal appellate system revision
    - President's State of the Union message to Congress
- Crime
  - Republican issue
- Prison reform
  - Construction
  - New techniques
  - Butler, North Carolina prison
    - Advances
  - Costs
    - New prisons
      - Study
  - Federal prisoners
  - State prisons
  - Federal funds
    - Law Enforcement Assistance Administration [LEAA]
    - Grants
    - Revenue sharing
    - State involvement
  - Problems
  - Reduction of costs
  - US Code reforms
  - Butler, North Carolina facilities
    - New techniques
- Drug abuse bill
  - Definitions
  - Hard drugs
-Heroin and morphine
-Drug dealers and traffickers
  -Mandatory sentences
  -Life sentences
  -Parole
  -Restrictions
  -Suspension of sentences
-Insanity defense
  -New definitions
    -Constitutional problems
-Responsibility of accused
  -Tasks for court in determining
    -Culpability
-mental state of defendants
  -Juries
-Procedures for dealing with criminally insane
  -New regulations
    -Separation of criminal trial from mental state analysis
      -Reasons
        -Intent
        -Convictions
          -Sentence options
        -Acquittals
          -Role of government
-Trial of Arthur H. Bremer
  -Legal complexities
  -Federal compared with State trials
-Hijacking cases

Administration’s programs
  -Department of Justice
  -Role of Congress
  -Role of government
  -Changes in funding
  -Foreign policy issues
    -Vietnam
      -Relations with People’s Republic of China and Soviet Union
    -Problems of complacency
-Need to rebuild on previous programs
  -Administration’s goals
    -Domestic programs
  -Problems
NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log
(rev. 10/08)

-Spending levels
-Tax increases
-Spending levels
-Louis Harris’s poll
-Domestic program increases
-Public support for increases
-Opposition to tax increases
-Connection between increases and higher taxes
-President’s policies
-The President’s veto
-Veto of higher taxes
-Jobs, taxes, and prices
-Need for responsible fiscal policy
-Concern for middle income people
-Divestiture of power from federal government
-Congressional action
-Administration’s position
-Power to mayors and governors
-Effect on partisanship
-Public perceptions of administration
-Polls
-Inadequacies
-Image of unconcern
-Need for statements of support
-Congressional Republicans
-Issues
-Law enforcement
-Crime
-Foreign policy accomplishments
-Vietnam War
-Conclusion
-Soviet Union and China

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US foreign policy

[To listen to the segment (24s) declassified on 02/28/2002, please refer to RC# E-612.]

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Nixon Presidential Materials Staff

Tape Subject Log
(rev. 10/08)

- Problem of complacency
- The President’s talks with Captain Jeremiah P. Denton
  - Concern for nation’s moral fiber
  - New isolation
- United States’ role in world
- Respect by allies and enemies
  - The People’s Republic of China
  - Japan
  - Europe

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US foreign policy

[To listen to the segment (32s) declassified on 02/28/2002, please refer to RC# E-612.]

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- Moral strength
  - Denton, President’s role
  - Role of Congress
    - Domestic policies
    - Defense
- President’s talk with former prisoners of war [POWs]
  - Treatment
  - Concern for future of United States

Future of United States
- Congress
- Concerns
  - Watershed period in history
  - Need for reflection

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US foreign policy

[To listen to the segment (44s) declassified on 02/28/2002, please refer to RC# E-612.]
-Upcoming year
  -Congressional leaders
    -Speeches and votes
    -Administration’s programs
-Administration’s programs

-Denton
  -Conversation with the President
  -Solitary confinement
  -Concern for future
  -Role of United States
    -Importance
    -European nations
    -Soviet Union and People’s Republic of China
-Responsibilities
  -Role of government
  -Programs
    -Improvements
    -Reorganization
  -Relationship between domestic reorganization and international greatness
  -Role of Congress

The President left at 11:00 am

[General conversation/Unintelligible]

Lynn, et al. left at an unknown time before 12:03 pm

Conversation No. 118-2

Date: March 13, 1973
Time: Unknown between 11:00 am and 12:03 pm
Location: Cabinet Room


[General conversation/Unintelligible]

Order of presentation of awards in Oval Office
  -Usilaner
  -Baker, Butz, and Cole
  -Dickerson, Boyett, and Simon
  -Harkins, Schalbrack, and Richardson
  -Vinciguerra and Ray
  -Rogers and Olmsted
  -Carrington and Kamp
  -McVay
  -Kelly
  -Johnson, Perry, and McMillan
  -Weinberger and Sampson

[General conversation/Unintelligible]

Awards presentation
  -Photos
  -Arrangements
  -Size of group

[General conversation/Unintelligible]

Usilaner, et al. left at an unknown time before 12:03 pm

Date:  March 13, 1973
Time:  Unknown between 12:03 pm and 3:13 pm
Location:  Cabinet Room

Unknown people met
The unknown people left at an unknown time before 3:13 pm

Conversation No. 118-5

Date: March 13, 1973
Time: Unknown between 12:29 pm and 3:13 pm
Location: Cabinet Room

Unknown people met

The unknown people left at an unknown time before 3:13 pm