Date: May 1, 1973
Time: Unknown between 3:10 pm and 11:52 pm
Location: Cabinet Room


[Recording begins while the conversation is in progress]

President’s schedule
   -Cabinet members’ questions for President
   -Meeting purpose
   -White House organization

White House staff
   -Cole
      -Role
      -Domestic Council
      -Scheduling
   -National Security Council [NSC]
   -Scheduling
      -Bull
         -Daily schedule
      -Parker
         -Long-term schedule
   -Personnel
      -H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman
   -Office of Management and Budget [OMB]
      -Ash
   -Departures of Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman
President’s schedule
- Cabinet meetings
- NSC meetings
- Domestic Council
- NSC
  - Rogers, Kissinger
  - Foreign policy issues

Departures of Haldeman and Ehrlichman
- Reaction of Cabinet and White House staff
- Comparison with Sherman Adams and Dwight D. Eisenhower
  - Rogers
  - Reaction of Cabinet and White House
- President’s workload
  - Cabinet
  - Foreign policy
    - Soviet Union
  - Domestic issues
    - Prices
  - Shultz
- Changes in personnel
- Effect on White House staff
  - Cole
  - Bull and Parker
    - Scheduling
- OMB
  - Ash

Watergate
- Richardson, William D. Ruckelshaus
- Special prosecutor
  - Richardson
- Possible staff involvement
  - President’s knowledge
- Haldeman and Ehrlichman
- Possible staff involvement
  - Leaves of absence
- Cooperation with investigators
- Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI] guards outside offices of Haldeman and Ehrlichman
  - President’s reaction
-Cabinet
  -Support for President
  -Duty
  -Personal conduct
-President’s previous speech on April 30, 1973
  -Rogers’ view
-Kleindienst’s service
-President’s conversation with Richardson
  -Attorney General
    -Responsibility
-Richardson
  -Kleindienst
  -Watergate investigation
-FBI guards outside offices of Haldeman and Ehrlichman
  -President’s reaction
  -Investigation
-Cabinet
  -President’s defense
-Haldeman and Ehrlichman
-FBI guards outside offices of Haldeman and Ehrlichman
  -New York and Washington press
-President’s previous speech on April 30, 1973
  -Weinberger’s view
  -Contrast with President’s other concerns

[A transcript of the following portion of the conversation was prepared under court order from February through March, 1988, for Special Access [SA] 89, US v. Kenneth Moses Loud Hawk, et al. The National Archives and Records Administration produced this transcript. The National Archives does not guarantee its accuracy.]

[End of transcript]

Morton’s position

Watergate
  -Armstrong’s comments
  -Family
  -Popular perceptions
    -President’s visit to Mississippi
    -Margaret Chase Smith and Russell B. Long
  -President’s remaining time in office
Kleindienst
-Forthcoming speech

Kleindienst left at an unknown time before 3:41 pm

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: _1m 44s_]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

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Watergate
-Press
  -Possible distortions
  -President as target
    -Ash
  -President’s defense
  -Future
    -Charles H. Percy’s statement
      -Purpose
    -Cabinet

The President left at 3:41 pm

[General conversation/Unintelligible]

Recording ends at an unknown time before 11:52 pm, while the conversation is in progress
Date: May 2, 1973
Time: Unknown between 8:11 am and 9:10 pm
Location: Cabinet Room

George P. Shultz met with Herbert Stein, John T. Dunlop, [lorwith] W. Abel, Frank E. Fitzsimmons, Pat Greathouse, Paul Hall, [Joseph] Lane Kirkland, Edward W. Carter, R. Heath Larry, Oscar A. Lundin, John F. O’Connell, and Walter B. Wriston; the White House photographer and members of the press were present at the beginning of the meeting.

[Recording begins while the conversation is in progress]

Wholesale price index

The President entered at 3:21 pm

Greetings and introductions
- Participants

[General conversation/Unintelligible -- Camera noise]

Economic stabilization
- Work of committees
- Appreciation
  - Labor and management
  - Dunlop
- Inflation
  - Wage and price controls
- Food prices

Labor-Management Advisory Committee
- Meeting in Miami
- Wages
- Dunlop’s figures
- Committee’s efforts
- Action by administration
  - Wage and price freeze
- Success
- Problems
  - Auto workers and Henry E. Ford, II
  - American worker
    - Wages
- Need for reassurance

Economic stabilization
- Public understanding
  - Rule of committee
  - Shultz
- Price freeze
  - President’s view
    - Attractiveness
    - Public support
  - Extent
  - Wage settlements
- Prices
  - Wages
    - George Meany
    - Steel settlement
  - Long-term problem
    - Wages
      - Upcoming settlements
      - Business attitudes
      - Meany
- Phase III
  - Forthcoming Presidential statement
  - Pre-notification
    - Problems for management
    - President’s justification
- Shultz and Dunlop
  - Efforts
- Freeze
  - Views of business
- President’s program
  - Timing
  - Views of business
  - Public understanding
- Current controls
  - Price increases
    - Success
  - Long-range solution
    - Business perception
      - Wages and labor unions
    - Impact of inflation
    - Economy
-Management
-Cooperation between business and labor
-Business views
  -Lack of controls on interest rates and farm prices
  -Outlook
-Wage settlements
  -Price controls

-Committee
  -Statements
    -Dunlop’s role
  -Investigations
    -Kirkland’s suggestions
    -Wage settlements
      -Phase II
  -Employment costs
    -Effect on other prices
    -Differing views within the committee

-Business community
  -Compliance
-Construction industry
  -Dunlop’s efforts
  -Hall’s view
    -Need for time

-Freeze
  -Committee’s belief
    -Solution
    -Rollback
    -Dunlop and Shultz’s role

-Public perception
  -Dwight D. Eisenhower’s phrase “price-wage spiral
  -Phase I
    -Presidential authority
  -Cost of living figures
    -Stein
  -Public confidence
  -Phase II
    -Controls
      -Cooperation between labor and business
  -Phase III
    -Increases
  -Forthcoming wage negotiations
    -Labor position
- Rollback
  - Options
- Freeze
  - Outlook for success
- Steel negotiations
  - Imports
  - Cost of living increase
  - 1959 negotiations
    - President’s role
- Strikes
  - Arbitration
  - Abel
- Resolution
  - Benefits

Labor-Management Advisory Committee
- Efforts
  - Productivity
  - Statesmanship

National economy
- Performance
- Administration’s actions since 1971
  - Phases
- Controls
- Prices
  - Grocery prices
  - Family budget
  - Effect on low-income people
- President’s reasoning

Labor-Management Advisory Committee
- Work with administration
- President’s position on arbitration
  - 1959 strike
  - Australia
    - Voluntary participation
- Australia
- Management-labor talks
  - Committee’s suggestions
- Need for popular reassurance
- 1971
-Recession and inflation
  -Effect of administration’s actions
    -Economic growth

National economy
  -Boom and inflation
    -Administration goals
      -Inflation
  -Jobs
    -Brennan’s view
    -Effect on economy
    -President’s anti-inflation program
  -Administration’s goals
    -Employment
    -Price controls
  -Cost of Living Council
  -Administration’s goals
    -Employment
    -Economic growth
    -Inflation
  -President’s actions
  -Work of committee

The President left at 4:13 pm

[Unintelligible]

Recording ends at an unknown time before 9:10 pm
Date: May 10, 1973
Time: Unknown between 7:58 am and 9:17 pm
Location: Cabinet Room


[General conversation/Unintelligible]

The President entered at 9:09 am

Watergate
- Personnel changes
  - Cabinet briefing
  - The President’s previous briefing with Congressional leaders
- Richardson
  - Role in Watergate investigation
- Special prosecutor
  - Richardson’s view
  - Qualifications
  - Authority
  - Attorney General’s authority
- Role in current Watergate investigation
  - Richardson’s directives
  - Staff
- Indictments and immunity
  - Timing
- Confirmation of Richardson
- Senator’s statement
- Samuel J. Ervin, Jr.’s statement
  - Legislative investigation compared with judicial process
    - Fair trial prospects
  - Questions for Richardson
    - Hearing delay
- Ervin Committee
-Beginning of hearings
-Prejudicial publicity
  -Effect on Special Prosecutor
-Possible injunction on hearings
  -Reasons
-Effects of hearings on judicial process
-Effect of witnesses’ immunity on prosecution
-Possible testimony
  -Rights of accused
-Special Prosecutor
  -Selection process
    -Richardson
-President’s speech on May 9, 1972
  -Impact on presidency
    -President’s election mandate

Cabinet
  -Richardson
  -Schlesinger
    -Background
    -President’s conversation with Edward W. Brooke concerning base closings

Central Intelligence Agency [CIA]
  -Schlesinger’s view
  -Colby
    -Background
      -Vietnam
    -Confirmation hearings
      -Statements

Haig
  -Henry A. Kissinger’s staff
    -Role on White House staff

Connally
  -Role on White House staff
    -Availability

Procedures
  -Subcabinet appointments
    -Haig
    -Ash
- Qualifications
- Candidates for positions
- Ash’s comments
  - Status
- Departures of H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman
  - Effect on White House operation
- Cabinet relations with White House
  - President’s conversations with Haig, Ash, and Shultz
  - Changes
  - Responsibilities
    - Congressional relations
    - Program development and implementation
- White House staff and Cabinet
- Comparative responsibilities and roles
- Additional White House staff
  - Congressional relations
    - Congressional votes
- Cabinet responsibilities
  - Congress
- Roles compared to previous administrations
- Policy development
- Position of Counselor to the President
  - Role
    - Chain of command
      - Cabinet
    - Cabinet and White House responsibilities

Vice President
  - Role
    - President during Eisenhower’s administration
      - Cabinet
        - Attendance
      - Domestic Council

Congressional relations
  - Cabinet relationship with White House
  - Richardson’s confirmation hearing
    - Future
  - Cabinet members’ efforts
    - Partisanship
    - Republicans
    - Democrats
Cooperation
- Congress’s desire for respect
  - Rogers’ testimony on Cambodia
- President’s schedule
- Agnew’s schedule
- Cabinet members’ schedule
  - Meetings with congressmen
- Richardson’s meeting with Samuel L. Devine
  - Meeting of Devine’s group
    - William P. Clements, Jr.
- Legislation
  - Timmon’s efforts
    - Meeting with congressmen
  - Possible improvements
  - Conflicting statements from administration
    - Coordination
  - Cole, Ash, and Cabinet
  - Bush and Morton
    - Meetings with congressmen
- Morton’s meetings with congressmen
- Congressional support for President
- Cabinet relations with committees
  - Conflicting statements from administration
  - Importance of coordination
    - Office of Management and Budget [OMB]
    - Example

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: _3m 37s_]
Tape Subject Log
(rev. 10/08)

-Cabinet officers
-Committees
  -Members
  -Executive departments
-Ziegler’s announcements
-White House relations with Cabinet
  -Congress

Press
  -Relations with administration
  -Relations with Cabinet
    -Scali’s view
    -Impact
  -Improvement of relations
  -Cabinet meetings
    -Leaks
  -Statements to press
  -Concerns of common people

Bureaucracy
  -Constituent-oriented momentum
    -Cabinet members

Congressional relations
  -1972 election mandate
    -Government spending
    -Possible pitfalls in second term
      -Model cities program
      -Great Society programs
      -Budget
      -Administration’s goals
    -Relations with Congress
  -Spending
  -Spirit of cooperation compared with weakness
    -Connally’s view
  -Watergate
    -American people
    -Effects
  -Budget
  -Aims of administration

Bureaucracy
- Support for President in 1972 election
- Morale
- Need for cooperation
- Contacts
- Loyalty
- Feelings concerning administration’s attitude
- Award programs

Administration’s attitude
- Press coverage of administration
  - Effect on morale
  - Watergate
  - *New York Times, Washington Post*
  - Administration’s reaction
  - Administration’s comments
  - Effect on public and Congress
- Administration’s mandate
  - Program development and implementation
  - Administration’s efforts
  - Role of Cabinet members

Watergate
- Administration’s investigation
- Staff changes
- Ervin Committee
  - Effect on individuals’ rights
  - Harry S Truman and Eisenhower’s conflict with Senate committees
- Administration’s program

Administration’s attitude
- Programs
- Rogers’ forthcoming trip to Latin America
- Forthcoming Soviet summit

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[End of transcript]
Nixon Presidential Materials Staff

Tape Subject Log
(rev. 10/08)

- Energy and inflation
- Campaign finance legislation

Foreign policy
- President’s Role
- World Peace
  - US role
  - US strength vis-a-vis the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR]
  - Middle East
  - Vietnam War, Cambodia
- President’s policies
  - Capitalists and communists
  - President’s role
  - Vietnam War
  - China summit
  - Russian summit
  - Forthcoming European summit
  - Vietnam
  - Middle East

Watergate
- Daniel Ellsberg break-in
  - President’s doctor
- Historical perspective
- Administration’s investigation
- Administration’s election mandate
- Response to possible press questions

Appreciation to Cabinet, staff

[General conversation/Unintelligible]

The President left at 10:47 am

Recording ends at an unknown time before 9:17 pm, while the conversation is in progress