Conversation No. 309-1

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 12:00 pm - 1:37 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with John D. Ehrlichman.

Yeoman Charles E. Radford incident
  - Robert O. Welander
  - Gen. Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
    - Talk with David R. Young, Jr.
      - Concern over quality of evidence
  - Ehrlichman
    - Meeting with Henry A. Kissinger and Haig
      - Tape of Welander interview
      - Adm. Thomas H. Moorer
        - Kissinger and Haig
          - Satisfaction with Moorer
            - Backchannels
      - Kissinger monologue to Ehrlichman
        - Timing
      - William P. Rogers
        - Moorer’s possible replacement
          - Praise for Moorer
      - R. C. (“Hugh”) Robinson interview
        - Haig
      - Melvin R. Laird
        - Previous conversation with the President
          - John F. Kennedy administration
          - Lyndon B. Johnson administration
          - Time on Appropriations Committee
Radford incident
  - Moorer
  - Kissinger
  - Haig
  - Kissinger
    - Reactions
    - State Department
      -Leaks
    - Kissinger
    - Rogers
      - John F. Kennedy
      - Pakistan
    - Kissinger’s style
    - Rogers
      - Relationship with the President
    - India-Pakistan War
      - Situation compared to Cuba by State Department
    - Secretary of State
    - Joseph F. Kraft
      - Kissinger
      - Conflict with Rogers

Rogers's press conference
  - Bombing of North Vietnam

Kissinger entered at 12:15 pm.
Ehrlichman
- Water Quality Bill [?]
  - Discussed at a later date

Radford incident
- Moorer
  - [Unintelligible]
  - Briefcases
    - Haig
  - John N. Mitchell
  - Moorer
    - Joint Chiefs of Staff [JCS] Liaison Office
      - Background
        - David [?] Ginsberg
        - Laird
        - Haig
  - Robinson
    - Interrogation
      - Ehrlichman
    - President’s displeasure with Radford incident
      - Amount of time
  - JCS
  - National Security Council [NSC]
    - McGeorge Bundy
      - Source
        - Use information
    - Moorer resignation
      - Decision
        - Potential risks
  - Laird
  - [Unintelligible]
  - US public opinion
    - Complexity of Radford incident
      - Difficult to understand
  - Wall Street Journal editorial
  - Leaks within government
  - Moorer
  - Survival of military establishment
  - Future for Radford
BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3
[Privacy]
[Duration: 5s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

-Pentagon
-Documents
  -Jack N. Anderson
  -Unknown name
  -Briefcase
-Moorer resignation
  -Consideration
-Transfer of Radford
  -Under surveillance
  -Federal Bureau of Investigations [FBI]
    -Mitchell
      -Talk with Ehrlichman
        -Anderson
  -Press coverage of Radford incident
    -Concern
  -Surveillance of Radford
    -Length of time
-Moorer
  -Proposed talk with Kissinger
  -[Unintelligible]
    -President’s instructions to Ehrlichman
-John B. Connally's knowledge
-Spiro T. Agnew's knowledge
-Kissinger, Haig and Young
  -JCS
-Laird
  -Mitchell
    -President’s instructions
      -Informing Laird
-JCS
-White House staff
-Secretaries
  -Unknown person
-Laird’s General Counsel
-Richard G. Kleindienst
-Robert C. Mardian
-Anderson
-Laird
-Effect on administration
-Effect on the military
  -Potential damage
-Ehrlichman's call to Mitchell
  -Laird's talk with Mitchell
  -Laird
-Moorer
  -Kissinger’s attitude
-[Unintelligible]
-JCS
  -Johnson Administration
    -Historical significance
-Haig
-People’s Republic of China [PRC] trip

Kissinger's schedule
  -Timing

PRC and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] trips

Foreign policy
  -Vietnam
    -North Vietnamese
      -Actions
      -Prisoners of War [POWs]
      -Leslie T. (“Bob”) Hope
        -Negotiations
          -Release of POWs

Busing (school cases)
  -Justice and State Departments
-Solicitor General
-Mitchell
-Erwin N. Griswold
-Presidential's forthcoming call to Griswold

Kissinger's schedule
-New York

The President's schedule
-Photo opportunities
-Phone calls
-Number

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 5
[Privacy]
[Duration: 1m 18s.]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 5

Kissinger left at 12:45 pm.

-Criticism of Kissinger
-Kissinger's place in history
-Role in foreign policy
-Nelson A. Rockefeller
-Relations with Moorer
-Suggested future cooperation
-John A. Scali
-Work relationship
BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 16
[Privacy]
[Duration: 7s.]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 16

-Kissinger's relationship with Rogers
-Ehrlichman’s view
  -Rogers
    -Tensions with Kissinger
    -Differences
    -Press conference
    -Particular strengths and skill
  -State Department
    -Praise from the President
  -Kissinger's and Rogers's working relationship

Environmental legislation
  -Treasury Department
    -Connally
    -Tax impact
    -Ehrlichman to write to Connally
      -Need for Connally’s assistance
      -Presidential support
  -Water Bill
    -Progress in the House
    -Veto
    -Administration strategy
    -George P. Shultz
      -Budgetary implications
      -Potential problems
    -Conference committee
      -Possible reservations by the President

Real estate taxation legislation
-Charles W. Colson, Richard A. Moore and Scali
  -Edmund S. Muskie
  -Connally
    -State of the Union Address
  -Ehrlichman's talk with Connally
  -McElroy Commission
    -Ehrlichman's conversation with [Forename unknown] Walton
  -Ehrlichman meeting with William Baroody and other conservatives in education field
    -Timing
  -Interest groups
  -John W. Byrnes
  -Colson
    -Real estate tax
  -Neil H. McElroy
    -Commission
  -Real estate taxes
  -Legislative proposal

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 12
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 32s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 12

Ehrlichman's schedule
  -California
    -President’s forthcoming meeting with Eisaku Sato

President's State of the Union Message
  -To be worked on in California

Value added tax
  -Connally's reaction to
-Kenneth R. Cole, Jr. [?]  
-Presidents view  
-Trade unions  
-President's instructions  
-White House's reaction to  
-Elliot L. Richardson’s view  
-Connally to speak  
-Dick [Surname unknown]  
-President's State of the Union Message  
-Meeting with Connally  
-Apparent difficulties  
-Ehrlichman’s schedule  
-President's State of the Union Message  
-Amount of time to be worked on

Defense budget  
-President’s telephone list  
-Unknown man  
-Laird  
-Support for budget  
-Shultz  
-Laird  
-Shultz  
-Kissinger

Kissinger and Rogers  
-Kissinger  
-Value to the administration  
-Concerns  
-Rogers  
-India-Pakistan War  
-Kissinger  
-Style and demeanor  
-Laos  
-India-Pakistan War  
-Laos  
-Effect on public opinion  
-Marquis Childs  
-Kraft  
-James B. (“Scotty”) Reston  
-“Kissinger’s world”
- Family and personal life
- Style on the job
  - Connally
    - Compared to other White House staffers
    - Family life
- Rogers
  - Family life
  - Press conference on India-Pakistan War
    - News summary
    - *New York Times*
    - John F. Kennedy
    - Apparent lack of focus
- President's personnel management abilities
  - *Time* magazine
    - Previous interview with Ehrlichman
    - Shultz’s phone calls
- Kissinger's relations with Laird and Rogers
- Kissinger
  - Kissinger's response during crisis
  - Style
    - Various political and domestic problems
    - National Broadcasting Company [NBC]
    - Rogers
    - Aspects of the President’s job
- Israel
- Middle East
- Laos

Leslie T. (“Bob”) Hope comments on release of POWs
- Haig
- Kissinger
  - Reactions

Moorer and incident with Radford
- Welander
  - Kissinger
  - JCS

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 13
[Privacy]
[Duration: 34s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 13

**************************************************************************

Kissinger
  - Talk with the President
  - Talk of leaving the Administration
  - Intellectualism
    - Potential problems
      - President’s view
  - Religion
    - Universities
      - “Liberal intellectualism”
    - Scientists
      - Universe
  - Relationship with President
    - President’s justification

President's signing the National Cancer Act of 1971
  - News stories
    - Newspaper and television
  - Edward M. Kennedy
  - Audience
  - John G. Schmitz[?]
    - Individual receiving pen from the President
  - E. Kennedy
  - President's remarks
  - Money

Movie "Brian's Song"
  - Channel 2
  - American Broadcasting Corporation [ABC] show
  - Gale E. Sayers and Brian Piccolo
    - Cancer
  - Race relations
-President's recommendation Ehrlichman and all White House staff see it
-Screening in the White House
  -Ehrlichman's role
  -Paul Fisher
  -Timing
  -Ehrlichman's schedule

Movie "French Connection"
  -Police
  -Drug traffic
  -Compared to unknown movie
  -Realism

Kissinger's personality

Public reaction
  -India-Pakistan War
  -Georges J.R. Pompidou
  -International monetary affairs
  -Middle East
    -US Jewish population
    -Media coverage
  -India

Indira Gandhi's visit to US

Kissinger and Rogers
  -PRC and Soviet trips
    -William C. Sullivan
      -Sullivan’s remark to Kissinger
      -State Department
    -Conflict between Kissinger and Rogers
  -Rogers's reaction to the PRC trip
  -PRC and Soviet trips compared
    -Significance

State Department
  -Department of Health, Education and Welfare [HEW]
  -Leaks
  -Staff during Democrat administrations
Government bureaucracy
- Liberals
- Conservatives
- Jews

Kissinger
- San Clemente
- Ehrlichman's talks with Kissinger

President's relations with his staff
- Socializing
- Kissinger
- Dinners
- Compared to Dwight D. Eisenhower's relations with his staff
  - Administration’s effort to promote goodwill
  - Praise from the President

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 9
[Privacy]
[Duration: _37s_]  
END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 9

F. Donald Nixon
- Ehrlichman’s previous conversation with Donald Nixon
- Christmas plans
- Activities
- European business connections
  - Robert L. Vesco
    - Investors Overseas Services, Ltd. [IOS]
- Donald Nixon’s boss
  - [Forename unknown] Straub
  - Meeting with Ehrlichman
  - Donald Nixon’s move to Bahamas
-Donald Nixon’s appeal
-White House Connection
  -Efforts to see the President
  -Vesco
  -Jail
  -Harry L. Sears
  -Mitchell

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 14
[Privacy]
[Duration: 26s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 14

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 10
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 4m 30s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 10

President's schedule
  -California
  -Florida
    -Eisaku Sato
    -Upcoming meeting

President's upcoming interview with Dan Rather
Radio message
   -Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS]
   -Story about Vietnam War
   -Soldier

Christmas and New Year greetings

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 15
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 2m 17s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 15
**************************************************************************

Kissinger

Cole
   -Oklahoma [?]

President's State of the Union message
   -Raymond K. Price, Jr. and Ehrlichman

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 11
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 1m 40s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 11
**************************************************************************
Ehrlichman left at 1:37 pm.

Conversation No. 309-2

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 1:37 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 17-4]

Request for a call to George P. Shultz

Conversation No. 309-3

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 1:37 pm - 1:46 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with George P. Shultz.

[See Conversation No. 17-5; one item has been withdrawn from the conversation]

Conversation No. 309-4

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: Unknown between 1:46 pm and 1:48 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

Gen. James D. ("Don") Hughes's wish to talk to the President on the phone
NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log
(rev. 10/06)

-Liberia

First Family Christmas photos
-Blue Room
-Ronald L. Ziegler and Constance M. Stuart
-Photo by wire services and Oliver F. ("Ollie") Atkins

President’s instructions
-Gen. Walter R. Tkach

Bull left at an unknown time before 1:48 pm.

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: Unknown between 1:46 pm and 1:48 pm
Location: Executive Office Building
The President talked with the White House operator.
[See Conversation No. 17-6]
Request for a call to Gen. James D. ("Don") Hughes

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 1:48 pm - 1:49 pm
Location: Executive Office Building
The President talked with Gen. James D. ("Don") Hughes.
[See Conversation No. 17-7]
Conversation No. 309-7

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 1:49 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 17-8]

Conversation No. 309-8

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 1:50 pm - 1:51 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Gen. James D. (“Don”) Hughes.

[See Conversation No. 17-9]

Conversation No. 309-9

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: Unknown between 1:51 pm and 1:56 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator

[See Conversation No. 17-10]

Request for a call to John W. Chancellor
Conversation No. 309-10

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 1:56 pm - 2:01 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with John W. Chancellor.

[See Conversation No. 17-11]

Conversation No. 309-11

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: Unknown between 2:01 pm and 2:06 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 17-12]

Request for a call to Nelson A. Rockefeller

Conversation No. 309-12

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 2:06 pm - 2:12 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Nelson A. Rockefeller.

[See Conversation No. 17-13; one item has been withdrawn from the conversation]
Conversation No. 309-13

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: Unknown between 2:12 pm and 2:16 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 17-14]

Request for a call to Ronald W. Reagan

Conversation No. 309-14

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: Unknown between 2:12 pm and 2:16 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

Letters
-Out box

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 2:16 pm.

Conversation No. 309-15

Date: December 24, 1971
Time: 2:16 pm - 2:21 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Ronald W. Reagan.

[See Conversation No. 17-15; one item has been withdrawn from the conversation]