Conversation No. 316-1

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: 12:32 pm - 2:15 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Robert H. Finch.

Request that Finch talk with an unknown person

The President's speech on Vietnam peace plan, January 25, 1972
-Reading for Finch
-Eyeglasses

The President read his "Address to the Nation Making Public a Plan for Peace in Vietnam" at an unknown time between 12:32 pm and 1:15 pm.

[A transcript of the speech in its final form appears in Public Papers of the Presidents, Richard M. Nixon, 1972, pp. 100-105]

The President's forthcoming speech
-Possible reaction
-Phraseology
-Americans
-Belief in North Vietnamese statements
-Finch’s view
-Indochina
-North Vietnamese peace plans
-Nine point compared to seven point plans
-Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam
-Vietnam
-Vietcong
-Michael J. Mansfield's Amendment
-All-Indochina Peace Conference
-Understanding of word by Americans
-Nine point program
-Henry A. Kissinger's forthcoming briefing
-Cease-fire
-Laos and Cambodia
Vietnam
  -Negotiations
    -US proposals
      -Secret channel
      -North Vietnamese response
        -Offensive
      -Public disclosure
        -Possible effect
      -Prisoners of war [POWs]
        -Cease-fire
          -Deadline
      -Aid to Indochina
      -North Vietnamese proposals
        -US reply
      -Nguyen Van Thieu
        -Resignation
          -Possible effect
          -Candidates
    -Secret talks
      -Public reaction
      -Channels
        -References to by the President

The President’s forthcoming trip to the People’s Republic of China [PRC]
  -Timing
    -New Hampshire primary
  -Planning
    -Mao Tse-tung

Vietnam
  -Possible criticism of forthcoming speech
    -New York Times and Washington Post
  -US possible military response to offensive
    -Air power
  -Thieu resignation
    -National election
  -The President's forthcoming speech
    -Possible effect
    -Possible leaks
      -Kissinger
        -Yeoman [Charles E. Radford]
Manolo Sanchez entered at an unknown time after 12:32 pm.
Sanchez left at an unknown time before 1:35 pm.

The President talked with an unknown person [the White House operator?] at an unknown time between 12:32 pm and 1:35 pm.

[Conversation No. 316-1A]
[Aborted telephone call]
[End of telephone conversation]

Busing
-Finch's view
The President's State of the Union Address
- Length of written message
- Spoken message
  - Television
- Written message
  - Delivery to Congress
  - Administration programs

The President's legislative programs
- Number
  - Mansfield
  - Press

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 19s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

The President's forthcoming speech
- Republican senators
  - Hugh Scott, Robert P. Griffin and Barry M. Goldwater
  - Norris Cotton and Carl T. Curtis
    - Ages
  - William E. Brock III and Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Senate
  -Leadership
    -Compared with House of Representatives
    -Baker, Brock, Charles H. Percy and Edward W. Brooke
    -Robert A. Taft, Jr. and John G. Tower
    -The President’s experience

Sanchez entered at an unknown time after 12:32 pm.
Sanchez left at an unknown time before 1:35 pm.

Rose Mary Woods entered at 1:35 pm.
The President's forthcoming speech
- Length
- Kissinger
- Preparation

Finch's instructions

Woods left at 1:37 pm.

Finch
- Departure from administration
  - Impact
  - Reasons
  - John N. Mitchell
  - Rowland Evans and Robert D. Novak
  - Mitchell
    - Campaign committee
  - Herbert G. Klein
  - Press conference

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 6
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 16m 17s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 6

The President's State of the Union Address
- Tone
  - Holmes Alexander's column
    - Dan Rather
The President's response to opponents
  -Timing
    -State of the Union address
    -Rather
    -Foreign trips
    -Franklin D. Roosevelt
      -Fala speech
      -Wendell Willkie
    -Harry S. Truman
      -Congress
      -Standing in popularity polls
      -Special session of Congress
        -Possible action by the Administration
          -Republican National Convention

[The President talked with an unknown person [H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman?] at an unknown time between 1:37 pm and 2:15 pm.]

[Conversation No. 316-1B]

  Lee W. Huebner

  Peter M. Flanigan

  Ronald W. Reagan

The President's stance against opponents
  -Compared with Roosevelt in 1936 and 1940

News summary
  -Patrick J. Buchanan

The President's schedule
  -George P. Shultz
  -Finch

[End of telephone conversation]
BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 7
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 3m 24s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 7

Issues
- National economy
  - The President's prediction in 1971
    - Inflation
  - 1972
- Vietnam
  - South Vietnam
  - People's Republic of China [PRC] and Soviet Union

Congress
- Legislative programs
  - Number
- Welfare reform
- Revenue-sharing
- Health care
- Budget
- Reapportionment
- Polls

Government
- Public approval
  - Dwight D. Eisenhower
  - Effect of 1960's
  - Polls
    - The President's standing
Close elections
-1972
  -The President's public visibility
  -Ulysses S. Grant
  -Samuel Tilden-Rutherford B. Hayes
    -Popular compared to electoral vote
  -James G. Blaine-Grover Cleveland
  -Benjamin Harrison-Grover Cleveland
  -William McKinley
  -Theodore Roosevelt in 1904
  -William H. Taft in 1908
  -[Thomas] Woodrow Wilson
    -Charles E. Hughes
  -Warren G. Harding in 1920
  -Calvin Coolidge in 1924
  -Herbert C. Hoover in 1928
  -Franklin Roosevelt
    -Thomas E. Dewey
  -Truman
  -Eisenhower
  -Lyndon B. Johnson-Goldwater
  -Hubert H. Humphrey-Nixon
    -The President's plurality
      -Bombing halt

Finch's schedule
  -Lunch
  -Meeting with Reagan, January 26, 1972

Finch left at 2:15 pm.
Date: January 25, 1972  
Time: Unknown between 2:15 pm and 2:25 pm  
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]  
[Duration: 5s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 2:25 pm.

Date: January 25, 1972  
Time: Unknown between 2:15 pm and 2:25 pm  
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman.

The President's forthcoming Vietnam speech  
-Attendance  
-Appropriations Committee
Conversation No. 316-3 (cont.)

-Allen J. Ellender
-Milton R. Young
-George H. Mahon
-Frank T. Bow

Henry A. Kissinger
-Health
-[W. Kenneth Riland]
-Appointment
-Timing

Announcement

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 2m 44s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: 2:25 pm - 2:33 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Rose Mary Woods.
The President's forthcoming Vietnam speech
-Preparation
-Changes
   -Henry A. Kissinger's views
   -Reading copy

[The President talked with Kissinger at an unknown time between 2:25 pm and 2:33 pm.]

[Conversation No. 316-4A]

- Woods's delivery
- Possible mention of France
  - Maurice Schumann
  - Kissinger's briefing
  - French Government

Kissinger
- Health
  - Schedule

The President's schedule
- Meeting with Congress
  - Kissinger
  - Forthcoming speech

Ronald L. Ziegler's briefing

The President's forthcoming speech
- Georges J.R. Pompidou
- Nguyen Van Thieu
- Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

The President conferred with Woods at an unknown time.

Instruction

[End of conferral]
The President's forthcoming speech
- Robert H. Finch's views
  - Michael J. Mansfield
    - All Indochina Peace Conference
    - Nine-point program
  - Indochina
    - Cambodia and Laos

[End of telephone conversation]
- Change
- Length
  - Marjorie P. Acker

[Woods talked with Acker at an unknown time between 2:25 pm and 2:33 pm.]

[Conversation No. 316-4B]
- Page count

[End of telephone conversation]

Laura Peterson
- Father, William H. Peterson
- Call
  - Request
    - Tour [?]

Woods's schedule
- Ambassador and Mrs. Robert C. Hill and Ambassador And Mrs. Wiley T. Buchanan

Ambassador Hill
- New Hampshire gubernatorial race

The President's schedule
- William J. Porter
BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 22s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4

Woods's schedule
  -Dinner arrangements
    -Call to unknown person
      -Viewing the President's speech

The President's schedule
  -Calls for the President
    -Porter
      -White House operator
        -Woods
          -Haldeman and Charles W. Colson

Woods left at 2:33 pm.

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 2:33 pm and 2:45 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with an unknown person.
The President's schedule
  - Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
  - Henry A. Kissinger
    - Meeting with the President

Conversation No. 316-6

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: 2:45 pm - 2:55 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Henry A. Kissinger.

Kissinger's schedule
  - The President's conversation with H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Privacy]
[Duration: 15s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

The President’s health

The President's forthcoming Vietnam speech
  - William P. Rogers's views
    - Attendance at speech
  - Changes
  - Ronald L. Ziegler

[An unknown person talked with the President at an unknown time between 2:45 pm and 2:55]
Call to the President
   -Error

[End of telephone conversation]

The President's forthcoming speech
   -Changes
      -Phraseology
         -Robert H. Finch's view
         -Indochina
            -Laos and Cambodia
            -South Vietnam
         -Peace settlement
            -Troop withdrawal
               -Timing
         -Vietnam election
         -Reconstruction program
            -Drafts
         -Kissinger's previous meeting with Earl of Cromer [George R.S. Baring]
            -Cromer's views
            -Possible French reaction
               -French cooperation
               -Cromer’s views
                  -Television
                  -William F. Buckley, Jr.

Kissinger left at 2:55 pm.
Conversation No. 316-7

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 2:55 pm and 4:35 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 10s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 3:45 pm.

Conversation No. 316-8

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 2:55 pm and 4:35 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman.

The President's forthcoming Vietnam speech
-Make-up
-Timing
-Mark I. Goode [?]
-Herbert G. Klein
-Press
-Residence
Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 2:55 pm and 4:35 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 10s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 4:35 pm.
Conversation No. 316-10

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: 4:35 pm - 4:36 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Alexander P. Butterfield.

The President's forthcoming Vietnam speech
   - Talking points

Memorandum for William P. Rogers
   - John B. Connally [?]

Menu

Butterfield left at 4:36 pm.

Conversation No. 316-11

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 4:36 pm and 5:30 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with an unknown person.

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 4s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 4:36 pm and 5:30 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President rehearsed his "Address to the Nation Making Public a Plan for Peace in Vietnam".

[A transcript of the speech in its final form appears in Public Papers of the Presidents, Richard M. Nixon, 1972, pp. 100-105]

An unknown woman entered at an unknown time during the rehearsal.

Speech draft [?]

The unknown woman left at an unknown time.

The President resumed rehearsing his speech.

Manolo Sanchez entered at an unknown time during the rehearsal.

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 4s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

The President resumed rehearsing his speech.
Sanchez left at an unknown time.

The President resumed rehearsing his speech.

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 4:36 pm and 5:30 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President rehearsed his "Address to the Nation Making Public a Plan for Peace in Vietnam".

[A transcript of the speech in its final form appears in Public Papers of the Presidents, Richard M. Nixon, 1972, pp. 100-105]
Conversation No. 316-14

Date: January 25, 1972  
Time: Unknown between 4:36 pm and 5:30 pm  
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 19-59]

Conversation No. 316-15

Date: January 25, 1972  
Time: 5:30 pm - 5:32 pm  
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Tricia Nixon Cox.

[See Conversation No. 19-60; one item has been withdrawn from the conversation]

Conversation No. 316-16

Date: January 25, 1972  
Time: Unknown between 5:32 pm and 6:31 pm  
Location: Executive Office Building

The President rehearsed his "Address to the Nation Making Public a Plan for Peace in Vietnam".

[A transcript of the speech, in its final form, appears in Public Papers of the Presidents, Richard M. Nixon, 1972, pp. 100-105]
Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 5:32 pm and 6:31 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with an unknown person.

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 21s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

The unknown person left at an unknown time before 6:31 pm.

Date: January 25, 1972
Time: Unknown between 5:32 pm and 6:38 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Rose Mary Woods.

The President's forthcoming Vietnam speech
-Changes
  -Henry A. Kissinger's views
  -Public text
  -Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

Haig
  -Call to the President
- Interruption of meeting
  - Marjorie P. Acker

[Woods talked with Acker at an unknown time between 5:32 pm and 6:31 pm.]

[Conversation No. 316-18A]

- Request

[End of telephone conversation]

The President's forthcoming speech
  - Date mentioned in text

[The White House operator talked with Woods at 6:31 pm.]

[Conversation No. 316-18B]

[See Conversation No. 19-61]

[Haig talked with the President between 6:31 pm and 6:34 pm.]

[End of telephone conversation]

The President's forthcoming speech
  - Changes

Woods's schedule
  - Wiley T. Buchanan
  - The President’s forthcoming speech
  - Buchanan’s schedule
    - Denmark
  - Call To Thelma C. ("Pat") Nixon

Denmark
  - State funeral
    - Buchanan
    - John S. D. Eisenhower

Woods left at 6:38 pm.