Conversation No. 326-1

Date: March 22, 1972
Time: Unknown between 5:07 pm - 6:15 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with John D. Ehrlichman, H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman, John B. Connally, George P. Shultz, Herbert Stein, Donald Rumsfeld and Charles W. Colson.

[Recording begins while the conversation is in progress; this is a continuation of Conversation No. 324-43]

National economy
  - Pay Board
    - George Meany’s resignation
      - The President’s possible statement
        - Television
          - Reaction
        - The President’s view
          - Meany
        - Possible West Coast longshoremen strike
  - Press coverage
  - Labor members
  - Meany’s resignation
    - Effect on Democratic candidates
      - Hubert H. Humphrey
      - Edmund S. Muskie
      - Humphrey
        - Busing
        - Joint Economic Committee
      - Muskie
        - Leonard Woodcock
        - Henry M. (“Scoop”) Jackson
    - The President’s possible statement
      - Format and timing

James D. Hodgson
  - Woodcock

Shultz left at an unknown time before 6:05 pm.

National economy
Conv. No. 326-1 (cont.)

-Shultz entered at an unknown time after 5:07 pm.

-Shultz’s view

-Price Commission

-Woodcock’s possible resignation

-Hodgson’s views

-Frank E. Fitzsimmons

-Public Pay Board

-John T. Dunlop

-Construction industry

-Peter J. Brennan

-Fitzsimmons

-Hodgson’s view

-International Brotherhood of Teamsters’ public image

-Views

-Construction industry

-Relationship with Teamsters

-Dunlop

-Shultz’s view

-COLC meeting
- Timing
- The President’s possible statement
  - Ziegler
  - Colson’s view
  - Doug Johnson [?]
  - Rumsfeld
  - Shultz
- Preparation
  - Long Statement
    - Television statement
      - William L. Safire
- Stein’s forthcoming briefing
- Composition
  - Virgil B. Day
  - Benjamin F. Biaggini
  - Rocco C. Siciliano
  - Biaggini
    - The President’s view
    - Fitzsimmons
  - Rumsfeld’s view
    - Day
- Day
  - Rumsfeld’s view
- Biaggini
  - The President’s view
- Meany’s resignation
- Administration response
  - The President’s view
    - Connally
    - Rumsfeld
  - Connally’s forthcoming speech to the Middlesex Club
    - Boston
    - Club
- Television shows
  - Today
    - Size of audience compared to Meet the Press
      - Herbert E. Kaplow
      - Barbara Walters
    - Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS] Morning News
      - Meet the Press
        - Marshall Green
- Today
  - Connally’s possible appearance
    - Timing
      - The President’s forthcoming press conference
  - Meany’s attendance record
  - Meany’s resignation
    - Administration response
    - Television shows
      - Today
        - Timing of Connally’s appearance
          - Network news
            - National Broadcasting Company [NBC]
        - Location
          - Meet the Press
            - Possible replacement of Green with Rumsfeld
              - The President’s forthcoming meeting with Green
  - Humphrey, Muskie
  - Administration’s response
    - The President’s schedule
      - Green

Ehrlichman, Connally, Shultz, Rumsfeld, and Colson left at 6:05 pm.

Steins’s briefing technique
  - The President’s view

National economy
  - The President’s program
    - Consumer Price Index [CPI]
    - Wage and price controls
      - Success
      - Possible freeze on food prices
        - Stein’s view
          - Farmers
          - Meat
            - Cattle
            - Hogs

Council of Economic Advisors [CEA]
  - Marina von N. Whitman
    - Stein’s view
Conv. No. 326-1 (cont.)

-Tape Subject Log
(rev. 10/06)

-Schedule
  -Speeches
  -Ezra Solomon
    -The President’s view
    -Stein’s possible speech on wage and price controls

Stein left at 6:08 pm.

The President’s schedule
  -Forthcoming COLC meeting
  -Forthcoming meeting with Green
    -Henry A. Kissinger’s views
      -Green’s possible press statement
        -State Department
          -Shanghai Communique
    -Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
    -Haldeman’s view
    -William P. Rogers
    -Taiwan, Republic of China
    -Green’s forthcoming appearance on Meet the Press
  -Florida
    -Press conference
      -The President’s view
        -Meany
        -Camp David
    -Press conference
      -Pay Board story
      -International Telephone and Telegraph [ITT]
  -Haldeman’s schedule
    -Press conference
      -Patrick J. Buchanan views
        -George C. Wallace
    -ITT

Manolo Sanchez entered at an unknown time after 6:08 pm.

Instructions

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 6:15 pm.

The President’s forthcoming press conference
  -Responses
Conv. No. 326-1 (cont.)

-ITT
-"Life" magazine story
-Peter M. Flanigan
-Ziegler
-Harry S. Truman, Franklin D. Roosevelt

The President and Haldeman left at 6:15 pm.

Conversation No. 326-2

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 9:20 am and 9:38 am
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with John D. Ehrlichman.

News summary
-Unknown person
-Resignation
-Possible press conference question
-Elliot Richardson
-Unknown man

Conversation No. 326-3

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 9:20 am and 9:38 am
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 22-10]
Conversation No. 326-4

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: 9:38 am - 9:45 am
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Charles W. Colson.

An unknown person entered and left at an unknown time between 9:38 am and 9:45 am.

[See Conversation No. 22-11; one item has been withdrawn from this conversation]

Conversation No. 326-5

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 9:45 am and 9:50 am
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with an unknown person.

Report
- Borders
- British
- Delivery

Manolo Sanchez entered the room at an unknown time between 9:45 am and 9:50 am.

Conversation No. 326-6

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 9:45 am and 9:50 am
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.
Unknown item

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 9:50 am.

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 9:45 am and 9:50 am
Location: Executive Office Building

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

Haldeman’s schedule
- Meeting with the President

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: 9:50 am - 10:45 am
Location: Executive Office Building

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

Pay Board
- George Meany’s resignation
- Charles W. Colson’s efforts
- Clark MacGregor’s possible effort
- Congress
- Statements by Michael J. Mansfield and Jacob K. Javits

International Telephone and Telegraph [ITT]
- Colson’s efforts

John B. Connally
-Comments on Today
  -Meany’s resignation from the Pay Board
  -Food prices
    -Meat prices
    -Earl L. Butz
      -Farm prices
      -Retailers
        -Transportation costs
  -Meany’s resignation from the Pay Board
    -Meany’s attendance at Pay Board meetings
    -Meany’s conversation with George H. Boldt
  -Effect
  -Tone
-News summary
  -The President’s view
-Performance
  -Herbert G. Klein
-Comments regarding Meany’s resignation from Pay Board
-Interview technique
  -Reaction of Haldeman, John D. Ehrlichman and George P. Shultz
-The President’s view
  -Irving R. Levine [?]
-Previous call to Haldeman
  -Jews
    -Arthur F. Burns, Hobart Rowan, Nathaniel Samuels
    -Burns
    -The President’s view
      -Edmund S. Muskie
  -Forthcoming call from Haldeman
-Secretary

Anti-Semitism
  -Haldeman’s view

The President’s schedule
  -Camp David

Middle East
  -The President’s forthcoming memorandum to Henry A. Kissinger
    -Soviet Union
    -John N. Mitchell
An unknown person entered and left at an unknown time between 9:50 am and 10:45 am.

- Andrei A. Gromyko’s offer
  - Soviet presence in Egypt
    - Israel
    - Kissinger’s response
      - 1972 election
        - Jews
        - Democrats
  - The President’s forthcoming visit with Leonid I. Brezhnev
    - Soviet presence in Egypt
    - Mediterranean
    - Israel

-Kissinger
  - The President’s view
    - Jews
      - Mitchell
      - Max M. Fisher
    - Golda Meir’s statements regarding the President
    - Support for the President
    - Effect on US policy
      - People’s Republic of China [PRC]
      - Soviet Union
      - Mediterranean
      - Oil
    - Israel
      - Barry M. Goldwater
    - US relationship with Arabs
      - United Arab Republic [UAR]
      - Oil
  - The President’s forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union
    - Opportunity to alter Us policy
    - Dwight D. Eisenhower
  - Soviet presence in the Middle East
  - Israeli occupation of territory
    - Compared to Okinawa
    - Japan
-Pearl Harbor
-The President’s forthcoming memorandum to Kissinger
  -Camp David

Jews
- Media
  - Haldeman’s view
  - Mitchell
  - Views regarding the President
  - Anti-Semitic vote

Middle East
- The President’s forthcoming memorandum to Kissinger
  - Timing
  - US policy

Jews
- President’s forthcoming trip to the Soviet Union
  - Pressure regarding Israel
    - Burns
    - Leonard Garment
    - Fisher
  - Support for the President

News media
- Television coverage of the President’s previous statement on Meany
  - American Broadcasting Corporation [ABC]
  - Ronald L. Ziegler’s expectations
    - ABC
    - Length of statement
    - Reaction
      - Consumer Price Index [CPI]

Connally
- Comments on Today
  - National Broadcasting Corporation [NBC]
  - Haldeman’s view
    - Charts
  - The President’s view
  - Schedule
Federal Reserve Board
  - Appointments
    - Roles of Burns and Connally
      - Haldeman’s previous conversation with Shultz
        - Shultz’s previous conversation with Burns
          - Frederic V. Malek’s role
          - Burns’s role in approving appointments
          - The President’s role
            - Malek
            - Burns
            - Connally
            - Shultz

Connally
  - The President’s view
  - Haldeman’s view

MacGregor
  - House members

News summary
  - ITT
    - James O. Eastland’s committee’s activities
      - San Diego
      - Haldeman’s view

Media coverage of administration
  - The President’s view
  - Haldeman’s view
    - Sherman Adams
    - Harry H. Vaughn
    - Robert C. Wilson, Robert H. Finch, Herbert G. Klein
      - The President’s view
      - Sheraton Hotels

Connally

Administration’s activities
  - Drugs
  - [Pay Board]
  - Staff morale
- The President’s previous statement regarding Meany
  - Haldeman’s view
  - Drugs

Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI]
  - FBI experts compared to external experts

The President’s instructions
  - Russell A. Kirk
  - Robert A. Nisbet

The President’s schedule
  - Possible press meeting with China experts
    - Ziegler’s views
      - Soviet Union
    - Wives
  - Press conferences
    - Value
    - Timing
      - Camp David
      - Gridiron dinner
    - Television
      - The President’s forthcoming trip to the Soviet Union
  - Possible fireside talk on drugs
    - Timing
    - Preparation
      - The President’s view
    - Format
      - Telephones
  - Radio talks
    - Raymond K. Price, Jr.
    - Emil (“Bus”) Mosbacher, Jr.’s talk with Haldeman
    - Gridiron dinner

Supreme Court
  - Mitchell

The President’s schedule
  - Press conferences
    - Timing
    - Vacations
-Democratic National Convention
-Republican National Convention
-Martin L. Kalb
-Kissinger
-Sovent Union trip
-Ziegler

Kissinger’s schedule
-Chicago, Houston, Dallas
-Television talk shows
-Connally
-Texas
-Houston
-Dallas-Ft. Worth
-Kalb
-Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS]
-Size of television audience
-Treatment of the administration

William P. Rogers
-Kissinger
-Comments regarding Arthur K. Watson

Watson
-Incident on airplane
-Public reaction towards President
-Bible Belt
-Haldeman’s view
-Frank F. Church’s comments
-Chinese

-Rogers

Haldeman left at 10:45 am.

Date:  March 24, 1972
Time:  Unknown between 10:45 am and 12:54 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

Note for John B. Connally
   -Rose Mary Woods

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 12:54 pm.

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 10:45 am and 12:54 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with an unknown man.

   Briefing book
      -Instructions on binding

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 12:54 pm.
Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 10:45 am and 12:54 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

**************************************************************************************
BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 7s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

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

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 12:54 pm.

Conv. No. 326-12

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 10:45 am and 12:54 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with an unknown person.

**************************************************************************************
BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal Returnable]
[Duration: 14s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
The unknown person left at an unknown time before 12:54 pm.

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 12:54 pm.
An unknown man’s location

Conversation No. 326-15

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 10:45 am and 12:54 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 22-12]

Conversation No. 326-16

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: 12:54 pm - 1:12 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Charles W. Colson.

[See Conversation No. 22-13; one item has been withdrawn from this conversation]

Conversation No. 326-17

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 1:12 pm and 1:16 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

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

Pending legislation
-Section 315 on equal time
Conv. No. 326-17 (cont.)

- The President’s previous call to Charles W. Colson
- Democrats
- Possible candidate debates
- Television
  - Minor candidates
- The President’s view

Peter M. Flanigan
- John D. Ehrlichman

Conversation No. 326-18

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: 1:16 pm - 1:17 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Ronald L. Ziegler.

[See Conversation No. 22-15]

Conversation No. 326-19

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: 1:24 pm - 2:00 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President met with Ronald L. Ziegler.

The President’s forthcoming press conference
  - Possible topics
    - Patrick J. Buchanan
    - Northern Ireland
      - Press coverage

Public relations
- John B. Connally’s previous *Today* appearance
- Donald Rumsfeld’s previous *Meet the Press* appearance

The President’s forthcoming press conference
- The President’s possible demeanor
  - Ziegler’s view
  - Connally
- National economy
  - Pay Board
- Judiciary Committee
  - Michael J. Mansfield
    - Vote on Richard G. Kleindienst’s nomination

National news items
- Herbert Stein’s statement
  - Ziegler’s view
  - Food prices
    - Price Commission
    - Connally’s statement
- Unknown person [Hubert H. Humphrey?]
  - Productivity Commission
- Busing
  - Detroit
  - Stephen J. Roth
  - Moratorium
  - Department of Justice
- New York banks’ prime rate
  - Unknown bank
  - First National Bank

The President talked with H.R. (“Bob”) Haldeman at an unknown time between 1:24 pm and 1:28 pm.

[Conversation No. 326-19A]

National economy
- New York banks’ prime rate
  - Connally

[End of telephone conversation]
Haldeman talked with the President between 1:28 pm and 1:29 pm.

[Conversation No. 326-19B]

[See Conversation No. 22-16]

[End of telephone conversation]
-Statement Department
  -Dwight D. Eisenhower
    -Sherman Adams
  -Harry S. Truman
    -Alger Hiss
    -Harry H. Vaughn
  -Scandals
    -Proof of charges
      -Harry S. Truman

Press
  -Ziegler’s forthcoming list
    -The President’s view
      -Television
      -Radio
    -Nicholas P. Thimmesch
    -Frank van der Linden
    -Richard (“Dick”) Wilson
    -Clark R. Mollenhoff
  -Wire services
    -Frank Cormier
    -Ziegler’s view
      -Helen Thomas
      -Gaylord Shaw
  -Preparation

The President’s forthcoming press conference
  -Schedule
    -Timing
    -Length
      -Jim Deakin
      -Cormier

Unknown man
  -Views of the press
  -Busing
    -Liberals
Unknown man [George C. Wallace?]
- Tax reform
- Democratic presidential candidates
  - Combined tenure in Senate
  - Inactivity

The President’s forthcoming press conference
- National economy
  - Price control
    - Consumer Price Index [CPI]
  - George Meany
    - Leonard Woodcock
- Busing legislation
  - South
    - School bus accident
- Separate but equal education
  - Ziegler’s statement regarding the President’s views
    - Brown vs. the Topeka Board of Education
  - The President’s view
- Ziegler’s view
  - George P. Shultz’s views

The President’s schedule
- Press conferences
  - Frequency
    - The President’s forthcoming trip to the Soviet Union
    - Democratic National Convention
  - The President’s view
- Ziegler’s conversation with Haldeman
- Format
- Timing and location
  - Democratic National Convention
  - Republican National Convention
  - San Clemente
  - Democratic National Convention
    - The President’s view
    - Staff schedules
    - Youth
- Possible international press conference
  - The President’s forthcoming trip to the Soviet Union
  - Ziegler’s conversation with Haldeman
-The President’s demeanor
  -Compared to Connally’s demeanor
  -Meany
  -Charts

Agnew
-Press coverage
-Statements to press
  -California
  -ITT
  -Ziegler’s view
  -Defensiveness
-Press coverage

The President’s forthcoming press conference
-National economy
-The President’s program
-Price controls
  -Humphrey, Meany
  -Food prices
    -Price Commission
    -Middlemen
    -Farmers
  -Ziegler’s view
  -Pay Board
  -Inflation

Ziegler left at 2:00 pm.
Conversation No. 326-20

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: 2:05 pm - 2:06 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Ronald L. Ziegler.

[See Conversation No. 22-18]

Conversation No. 326-21

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: Unknown between 2:06 pm and 2:22 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 22-19]

Conversation No. 326-22

Date: March 24, 1972
Time: 2:22 pm - 2:23 pm
Location: Executive Office Building

The President talked with Edward J. Gurney.

[See Conversation No. 22-20]