Date: May 3, 1972  
Time: 7:58 am - 8:09 am  
Location: Oval Office

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

Nelson A. Rockefeller  
- Public appearance  
- Time

Adm. Thomas H. Moorer

J. Edgar Hoover  
- Funeral  
- Time  
- Length  
- President's eulogy  
- Length  
- Prayers  
  - Rev. Edward G. Latch  
  - Rev. Edward L.R. Elson  
- Cemetery  
- Television coverage  
  - Response of Elson  
- President's remarks  
- Network stories  
  - Parts covered  
  - Dr. Benjamin (McLane) Spock’s remarks  
  - John W. Chancellor’s remarks  
    - President's eulogy  
    - The President’s May 3, 1972 statement  
      - Federal Bureau of Investigations [FBI]

- Flags  
  - FBI  
  - Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS] special
Vietnam
  - North Vietnamese offensive
    - Loss of Quang Tri
      - Evaluated
        - Press reports
          - *New York Times*
          - General press accounts
          - Words used
          - Assessment of loss

President's dinner
  - Henry A. Kissinger's location
    - Press speculation
      - National Broadcasting Corporation [NBC] news report
        - *Sequoia* cruise with President and Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

Vietnam
  - US actions
    - Soviet Summit
      - Possible US announcement
        - Cancellation instead of bombing
          - Kissinger’s view
      - Effect on polls
      - Accomplishments
      - Cancellation risks
      - Value of cancellation
      - Cancellation
        - Problems
  - Bombing
    - Domestic impact
  - Soviet Summit
    - Cancellation
      - Impact on the President's Vietnam policy
        - “Doves”
        - Congress
  - Support
Conv. No. 718-1 (cont.)

-“Hawks”
  -Harry S. Dent
-Bombing
  -Impact on Summit
  -Kissinger

President's schedule
  -Annapolis appearance
  -Cancellation
    -The President’s view
    -Timing of the Soviet Summit

Haldeman left at 8:09 am.

Conversation No. 718-13

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: Unknown time between 8:09 am and 10:06 am
Location: Oval Office

Unknown people [Secret Service agents] met.

President’s location
  -Cabinet Room

Conversation No. 718-2

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: 10:06 am – 10:19 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with H. R. (‘Bob’) Haldeman.
Henry A. Kissinger entered at 10:07 am.

Greetings

Meeting with Republican Congressional leaders
- Kissinger
- Support for President

Vietnam
- North Vietnamese offensive
  - New York Times reporters
    - Craig Whitney (?) and Sydney Schanberg
    - [First name unknown] Butterworth

Instructions to Haldeman
Kissinger's schedule
  -Washington Special Actions Group [WSAG] meeting

Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT] negotiations
  -Submarines
    -Information leaks
    -William P. Rogers's version
    -Numbers
    -Purpose
    -Rogers
    -Gerard C. Smith
    -President's story

President's schedule
  -Meeting with Kleindienst
    -Time

Vietnam
  -North Vietnamese offensive
    -Melvin R. Laird's press conference
      -South Vietnamese performance
    -The President’s instructions
    -Postponement
      -J. Edgar Hoover funeral
    -Laird's reluctance

Haldeman left at 10:10 am.

WSAG meeting
  -Kissinger's attendance
    -Alexander M. Haig, Jr.’s attendance

Vietnam
  -North Vietnamese offensive
    -Course of action
    -Letter to Anatoliy F. Dobrynin
      -Tenor
    -New proposals
    -Further discussions
    -President's message
Conv. No. 718-2 (cont.)

-Nguyen Van Thieu
-South Vietnamese strengths
-North Vietnamese weaknesses
  -Casualties
    -Kontum, Hue
-Losses
  -Divisions
-South Vietnamese military dispositions
  -Kontum, Pleiku
-Abrams
  -Tactics
  -Possibility as Army Chief of Staff
-Chances of stopping
  -Kissinger's evaluation
  -South Vietnamese command
    -Changes
    -Gen. Hoang Xuan Lam
    -Gen. Pham Van Phu
-South Vietnamese forces
  -3rd Division
    -Loss
    -Remaining strength
    -Kissinger’s view
-Hue
  -Possible capture
  -Strategy
    -Kontum
-South Vietnamese
  -Attitude toward communists
-Outcome

Kissinger's schedule
  -WSAG meeting
  -Meeting with President
Vietnam
- North Vietnamese offensive
  - William J. Porter
  - Adm. Thomas H. Moorer briefing
    - Bombing plans
      - Haiphong
    - Laird's attendance
      - Position on bombing
    - US options
      - Military action
      - Soviet Summit cancellation
    - Porter's instructions
    - Moorer’s briefing
      - Attendance by Kissinger and Haig
      - Kissinger's meeting with President
    - Time

President's schedule
- Hoover eulogy preparation

Porter
- Instructions for walkout
  - William H. Sullivan
  - Laird
  - WSG
  - Sullivan
  - Views

Kissinger left at 10:19 am.

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: Unknown between 10:19 am and 10:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President talked with John D. Ehrlichman.

J. Edgar Hoover


- Robert P. Griffin
- Abe Fortas

Ronald L. Ziegler briefing
- Supreme Court appointments
  - Career compared with political
- Ziegler's forthcoming announcement on Louis Patrick Gray, III
  - Time
- Appearance by Richard G. Kleindienst
  - Time
- George D. Aiken
- Appointment

Conversation No. 718-4

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: 10:20 am - 10:50 am
Location: Oval office

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

Henry A. Kissinger
  - Location
  - Washington Special Actions Group [WSAG]

A meeting
  - Nelson A. Rockefeller's attendance
  - John N. Mitchell

President's schedule
  - Meeting with Richard G. Kleindienst
  - Time
  - Announcement on Louis Patrick Gray, III
  - Time

Polls
  - Results
President's schedule
- Trip to Annapolis, Maryland
  - Cancellation
  - Arrangements
  - Format
    - Chapel

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[Personal returnable]
[Duration: 1m 34s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

Vietnam
- George D. Aiken
- J. William Fulbright's amendment
- North Vietnamese offensive
  - Support for President in Senate
    - Disenchantment over Soviet backing
- Soviet Summit
  - Cancellation
    - Aiken
  - Kissinger’s schedule
    - Moscow, Paris
  - Kissinger's advice
    - Reasons
  - Cancellation
    - Impact
- South Vietnamese morale
- Soviet Summit
  - Cancellation
    - Impact on President's policies
  - Kissinger's advice
  - Dwight D. Eisenhower
-U-2 incident
-Cancellation
  -Domestic impact
  -President's reasons
    -Conclusion of war
  -Soviet propaganda
    -Kissinger
    -Worldwide reaction
-Postponement
  -Possibilities
  -Disadvantages
    -Soviet propaganda
    -Effect on US foreign policy
      -Cost

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3
[Personal returnable]
[Duration: 8m 59s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

Vietnam
  -Soviet Summit
  -Cancellation
    -Kissinger's advice
    -Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
    -Announcement
      -Support
        -Initial reaction from “hawks”
        -Erosion
          -Press criticism
  -Problems
  -Support
    -Duration
Conv. No. 718-3 (cont.)

-Erosion
-Democrats' position
-Kissinger's advice
-Reasoning
-Evaluation

-Bombing
-Targets
-Hanoi and Haiphong harbor
-Melvin R. Laird's position
-The President's view
-William P. Rogers's position

Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT]
-News leaks
-Rogers
-Gerard C. Smith
-Bernard Gwertzman's story
-Rogers's dealings with press
-Credit for SALT
-Rogers and Smith
-President's role
-Kissinger's concerns

J. Edgar Hoover
-Funeral
-President's eulogy
-News coverage

-Detractors
-Rennie Davis, Dr. Benjamin (McLane) Spock
-Press coverage
-Investigation of Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI]
-Pressure
-Relation to confirmation of new director
-Louis] Patrick Gray, III
-Withdrawal of nomination as Deputy Attorney General
-Timing
-Kleindienst's confirmation
-W wording of Ronald L. Ziegler's statement
-Gray's preferences
Haldeman left at 10:50 am.

Conversation No. 718-5

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: Unknown between 10:50 and 10:54 am
Location: Oval Office

The President talked with John D. Ehrlichman.

White House correspondents
-Children
-Number attending public schools

Conversation No. 718-6

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: 10:54 am - 10:56 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Alexander P. Butterfield.
The President’s schedule
- J. Edgar Hoover
  - Funeral
    - Timing
      - Compared with another scheduled speech
    - Time

Butterfield left at 10:56 am.

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: Unknown between 10:56 am and 10:59 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

President's trip to Soviet Union
- Date of departure
- Confirmation

Bull left at an unknown time before 10:59 am.

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: Unknown between 10:56 am and 10:59 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

Soviet Union trip
- Time of departure
  - US
  - Salzburg
Bull left at an unknown time before 10:59 am.

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: 10:59 am - 12:11 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Henry A. Kissinger.

Kissinger's meeting

Vietnam
   - North Vietnamese offensive
   - Briefing on targets
      - Melvin R. Laird's opinion
      - Adm. Thomas H. Moorer
      - [David] Kenneth Rush

Manolo Sanchez entered at an unknown time after 10:59 am.

Food order

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 12:11 pm

Vietnam
   - North Vietnamese offensive
   - Targets
      - President's briefing
         - Moorer
         - Laird
      - The President's view
         - Rush
         - Value
         - Compared with Laird

Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT]
-Briefing
  -Role of Laird and William P. Rogers
    -Rush's position
  -Information released
    -Submarines
      -Freeze
    -Amount of detail
  -Rogers's intentions
    -Reasons
  -Cabinet
    -Role in talks

Vietnam
  -South Vietnam
    -Resupply mission
      -Announcement
      -Photographs of Soviet equipment
  -Paris peace negotiations
    -Possibilities
      -Accept another meeting
      -Walkout
      -Postponement
      -Kissinger’s view
  -North Vietnamese offers
    -US response
    -Contents
      -Nguyen Van Thieu
      -Prisoners
      -Public sessions
      -Thieu
      -Kissinger's prediction
  -North Vietnam's options
  -North Vietnam's goals
  -North Vietnam proposals
    -US reactions
    -Private meetings
      -Le Duc Tho
      -Kissinger's view

-Bombing
  -Importance
  -US attitude
-Soviet interpretation
-North Vietnamese offensive
  -Negotiations
    -Plenary sessions
      -William J. Porter
      -Thieu's interpretation
    -Plenary sessions
-North Vietnamese offensive
-Personnel sessions
-William J. Porter
-Thieu's interpretation
-Personnel sessions
-President's options
  -Laird's advice
  -Thieu

SALT
  -Rush
    -View of Rogers and Laird
    -Work with Rogers
      -Berlin
    -People's Republic Of China [PRC] communiqué
      -News stories
        -Rogers's role
  -Objections
    -Rogers
    -Gerard C. Smith
  -Support
    -Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff [JCS]
    -Secretary of Defense
    -Central Intelligence Agency [CIA] Director
  -Objections
    -Rogers
    -News stories
      -Rogers's complaints
      -Credit for agreement

Vietnam
  -President's policies
    -Credit
  -North Vietnamese offensive
    -Paris peace negotiations
      -Walkout
      -The President’s view
    -Kissinger's trip to Moscow
      -Porter and plenary session
NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log
(rev. Dec-01)

Conv. No. 718-9 (cont.)

-Editorial comment
  *Washington Star*
-President's evaluation
-Possible walkout
  -Soviet interpretation
  -North Vietnam's interpretation
  -US public opinion
    -Support for walkout
    -Criticism
-Senate Democratic caucus
  -Position
  -Robert C. Byrd
    -Michael J. Mansfield Resolution
  -George D. Aiken
  -J. William Fulbright proposal
  -Aiken’s view

Soviet Summit
-Cancellation
  -US public opinion
    -Impact of walkout on Vietnam negotiations
  -President's approach
    -Possible options
  -Impact on Thieu
  -Impact on Hanoi
  -Impact on Soviets
  -Initial impact
-Columnists
-Senators and Congressmen
  -Concerns
  -Suspicions
-Soviet response
  -Further negotiations
    -Impact of propaganda on public opinion in US and abroad
      -Erosion over time
  -Reasons
-Media attacks on President's foreign policy
-Soviet responsibility
-Impact on war's outcome
-Relation to new foreign policy
  -PRC
NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log
(rev. Dec-01)

Conv. No. 718-9 (cont.)

-Soviet Union
  -The President’s view
-Eff ects
  -US public opinion
  -Forthcoming Democratic convention
  -Forthcoming election

Vietnam War
  -Impact on forthcoming election
  -Impact on war’s outcome
  -Importance
    -Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
  -Military failure
    -Military-foreign policy of successor
-Soviet Summit
  -Possible effects of cancellation on South Vietnam
    -President’s evaluation
    -Place on summit agenda
    -Domestic impact
-US options
  -Military action
    -Effect on Soviet Summit
      -US public support
      -Effect on Soviet Union
      -Effect on South Vietnam
      -Effect on Soviet Union
      -Effect on North Vietnam
    -Perception
      -Hue
  -Importance
  -Military action
    -Effects

President's choices
  -Cancellation of Summit compared with military action
  -Risks
  -Impact on war's outcome
  -Kissinger's assessment
    -Effects of cancellation
      -Vietnam War
      -Presidency
-President's place in history
-US role in the world
-President's trip to Moscow
-Risks
  -US credibility with Soviet Union
  -Allies' perception of US
  -Soviet supplies to Vietnam
  -Principles of coexistence
  -Trade
  -Middle East
    -India-Pakistan War
  -Southeast Asia
  -Perception of President's policies
-Relationship to Vietnam War
  -Peace
  -Military victory
  -Military defeat
    -Hue
-A letter
  -Possible Soviet responses
  -Content
  -Responses
-Cancellation of Summit
  -Further military action

Press relations
-Response of liberals and press
-Impact on President and Kissinger
  -Column by Hugh S. Sidey and James B. (“Scotty”) Reston
    -William P. Rogers
    -H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman
-Kissinger's press briefings
  -Portrayal by press
    -Reasons
-Press
  -Richard [Surname unknown]
  -[Unknown person]
-Attacks by State Department
-Rogers
  -Bernard Gwertzman
-New York Times article by Gwertzman
Conv. No. 718-9 (cont.)

-Sources
  -Rogers
  -Haig
  -Rogers

-Content
  -Murray Marder article
  -Rogers

-May 31, 1971 plan
-Kissinger's press contact
  -Sidey
  -Jerrold L. Schecter

-State Department press contact
  -Time poll
  -New York Times article by Gwertzman
  -Richard F. Pedersen
  -Robert J. McCloskey

-Kissinger's press contact
  -Haldeman's views
  -Pedersen
    -Position at United Nations [UN]

Vietnam
-Military action
  -Effect on Summit
    -Possible cancellation

-President's speech
  -Preparation
    -Conclusions
  -President's options
    -Bombing Hanoi

-Kissinger draft
  -Winston Lord
  -John K. Andrews, Jr.
  -Helmut Sonnenfeldt
  -President's options

-Paris negotiations
  -Walkout
    -Timing
    -Choices for US
  -North Vietnamese offensive
    -President's response
-Walkout
  -North Vietnamese response
    -Lyndon B. Johnson
-North Vietnamese proposals
  -Contents
  -US rejection
  -US counterproposal
  -US response
    -Language
-Benefit of continuing negotiations
  -Thieu
  -Effect on further military action
  -Effect on Soviet Summit
-May 4, 1972 meeting
  -Issues
    -Offensive
    -Ceasefire
    -Prisoners of war [POWs]
  -Expected response
    -Thieu
    -Press freedom
      -New York Times
-Military action
  -Urgency
  -Timing
    -News coverage
-Soviet response
  -Impact on Summit
-Military benefits
-Signal to Hanoi
-Message to Soviets
  -Leonid I. Brezhnev's conversation with Gus Hall
  -Possible cancellation of Summit
-President's visit to Moscow
  -Timing with North Vietnamese offensive
-SALT agreement
  -Common principles
    -Possible signature
    -Possible cancellation
-North Vietnamese offensive
  -Weather
- Resupply of South Vietnam
  - Haig
  - Tanks
  - Planes
    - B-52s
    - F-4s
- Message for Porter
  - Wording
    - Le Duc Tho
- President’s speech
  - Wording
  - President’s schedule
- Kissinger's forthcoming trip to Japan
- President’s summary
  - Forthcoming election
  - Need to avert defeat by Soviets

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3
[Personal returnable]
[Duration: 1m 15s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

Soviet Summit
  - Risks of military action in Vietnam
  - Ceasefire possibility
    - Possible US response
    - North Vietnam
      - Hue

President's foreign policy
  - Negotiating principles
  - Trade, Middle East
  - PRC
  - Vietnam
Soviet Summit
- Danger of attending during North Vietnamese offensive
- Appearance of US weakness
- US cancellation
  - Consequences for Vietnam
    - Thieu's defeat
    - The President’s view
- Effect of US military action
  - Soviet cancellation of Summit
  - Effect on peace talks
    - The President’s meeting with Congressional leaders
  - Effect on forthcoming election

South Vietnam
- Thieu
  - Opposition
    - Duong Van Minh's position
    - Moorer
  - US relations with Thieu
  - Expendability
- North Vietnamese conditions

Soviet Summit
- Cancellation and military action
  - Timing
    - Advantages
    - Disadvantages
    - Relationship to military activities
      - Hue
      - Kontum
- Agreements with Soviets
  - Benefits
    - Health, science
    - Brezhnev
  - Risks
    - Europe, PRC
  - Value
  - Forthcoming elections
  - Response of allies
    - Frank J. Shakespeare's assessment of détente
Conv. No. 718-9 (cont.)

-Nixon presidential materials staff
-Tape subject log

-President's forthcoming speech
-Decision
-Timing
-Draft of speech
-Time of delivery
-Air strikes
-Arrangement with Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Jr. and Moorer
-Timing of possible Summit cancellation
-Draft of speech
-Effect on President's thinking
-Preparation
-Expected effects of speech
-Military action
-Timing
-Summit
-Cancellation
-Effect on military action
-Preparation of draft
-Timing of decision

Kissinger left at 12:11 pm.

Conversation No. 718-10

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: 12:14-unknown before 12:18 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.
Conversation No. 718-9 (cont.)

President's schedule
- Forthcoming meeting
- Barber
  - Time
  - Arrangements
  - Time

Bull left at an unknown time before 12:18 pm.

Conversation No. 718-11

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: Unknown after 12:14-12:18 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull and Alexander P. Butterfield.

President's schedule
- Appointment with barber
  - Time

Bull left at an unknown time before 12:18 pm.

Signatures

Telephone call recommendation from Charles W. Colson

Notes

Temperature in office

Compilation of material on astronauts
  - Sanford L. Fox
  - Purpose
  - Approval

Butterfield left at 12:18 pm.
Conversation No. 718-12

Date: May 3, 1972
Time: Unknown after 12:18-12:35 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

Sanchez
  - Forthcoming knee operation
  - Amount of recovery time

Rose Mary Woods entered at 12:19 pm.

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 12:35 pm.

Temperature in Oval Office

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2
[Personal returnable]
[Duration: 2m 42s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

Gift for John B. and Idanell B. (“Nellie”) Connally
  Decanter
Letter to Cyrus R. Smith
  - Copy to Connally
-Gratitude for decanter
  -Thelma C. (“Pat”) Nixon
  -Connally
  -Commemoration of previous World's Fair
  -Nixon Library

Letters to President from Mrs. John Connally III's class
  -President's letter of appreciation
  -Postscript
    -The President's and Mrs. Nixon's visit to Connally ranch

Adele (Langston) Rogers St. John's telephone call to Woods
  -H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman
  -President's statement upon J. Edgar Hoover's death
  -Previous trip by President to Florida
  -Gridiron Dinner
    -President's appearance with John F. Kennedy
    -Hoover's statement about the President

Letter to Miriam Summerfield
  -Form
  -President's call
    -[Arthur E. Summerfield]

Letter to Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff
  -Other form of condolence

Decanter
  -Location
    -Stephen B. Bull
    -John Connally
    -Sanford L. Fox
    -Description

Hoover
  -President's eulogy
    -Location
      -Warren E. Burger
    -President's statement upon Hoover's death
    -Eulogy
      -Preparation
Conv. No. 718-12 (cont.)

Julie Nixon Eisenhower
   -Location

Temperature in Oval Office

President's schedule

Sanchez
   -Forthcoming knee operation
   -Recovery time

Sanchez entered at an unknown time after 12:19 pm.

Weather

The President, Woods and Sanchez left at 12:35 pm.

Date:  May 3, 1972
Time:  Unknown between 12:35 pm and 12:59 pm
Location:  Oval Office

Unknown people [Secret Service agents] met.

An unknown agent talked with an unknown person at an unknown time after 12:35 pm.

[Conversation No. 718-14A]

The President’s location
   -Executive Office Building [EOB]

[End of telephone conversation]

[Unintelligible]

The conversation was cutoff at an unknown time before 12:59 pm.