Date: March 8, 1973
Time: Unknown between 5:01 pm and 5:52 pm
Location: Oval Office


Greetings/Introduction of John B. Conlan
- President of House of Representatives’ freshmen class

Introductions
- [General introductions]
  - Gene Taylor, James Abdnor, Robert Daniel, Ralph Regula
  - Stanford Parris, David Towell, Samuel Young, Edward Madigan, Trent Lott, William Ketchum, Robin Beard, James Martin, James Johnson, Matthew Rinaldo, Robert Hanrahan,

Representative from Alaska
- Donald E. Young
- Photograph
- Recent electoral win

Meeting
- Purpose
- Location
  - Oval Office
  - Cabinet Room

Leadership of freshmen congressmen
- President's appreciation
Conversations No. 873-1 (cont’d)

- Press conferences, special orders, speeches
  - Washington papers
    - *Washington Post*
  - Reportage
    - Distortions

Congress
- President’s advice
- President's terms in Congress
- Value of work in Congress
  - Effectiveness
    - Washington newspapers compared to home districts
- Important issues
- President's political career
  - Hard times, conflict
    - Benefits
- Lobbyists
- Work
  - Historic time in present
    - Domestic and foreign policy issue
- President’s political career
  - Visit to White House
    - Charles Kirchner
    - Wisconsin
    - Harry S. Truman
    - “Buck stops here sign”

Budget matters
- Increases
- Poll results on issues
  - Spending for education, housing, cities
  - Taxes compared to spending on education
  - Inflation compared to taxes and revenue
    - Budget deficit
- Limitations on spending
  - President's vetoes
    - Reasons
      - Taxes compared to spending
    - Public reactions
- Difficulties of votes
-Great Britain’s parliamentary system
  -Importance of budget votes
    -Compared to US party system
      -Caucus
        -Gerald R. Ford
      -Partisanship
        -Need for support of freshman
          -“Golden Rule of Politics”

US foreign policy
  -Trade policy
    -Talk with Golda Meir
  -Markets
    -Reciprocal trade
    -Henry A. Kissinger anecdote
      -Golden rule of international politics
  -Vietnam
    -1972 election
  -Conclusion of war
  -Responsibilities of Congress in post-war period
    -Budget cuts
      -Effect of demobilization, defense cuts
    -Relations with the People’s Republic of China [PRC], Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR]
  -US bargaining position
    -Visit to PRC
      -Chou En-lai
    -USSR
      -Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT]
        -Trade, space agreements
    -Vietnam War
    -Questions about budget cuts
    -Dialogue with PRC
    -Negotiations with USSR
      -President's meeting with Anatoliy F. Dobrynin
        -Summit
          -Arms limitations
    -Question about tax cuts
      -Defense spending
    -Negotiations with USSR, PRC
Self interests
- PRC opening to US
- Soviet détente with US
  - 1972 summit
  - SALT agreement
-Congress’s role
  - Antiballistic missiles [ABM] vote
    - Militarists compared to pacifists
  - Spiro T. Agnew’s deciding vote
  - Impact on SALT agreement
    - US goals
    - US concessions
-Negotiations
  - Self-interest
  - Need for strength
  - Incentive
-Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction [MBFR]
  - North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO]
  - Impact of US troop withdrawals
-Negotiations
  - Congress’s role
  - Defense budget
-Need for respect
-June 1972 summit in Moscow
  - President’s May 8, 1972 decision
    - 1972 election
      - Senate criticism
      - Communist offensive in Vietnam
        - Press coverage
          - “Specter of defeat”
      - Mining, blockade
      - Television [TV] announcement
      - Reaction
        - Editorial writers
    - Impact on USSR, summit
      - Respect for President’s decision
      - Leonid I. Brezhnev
-US policy of strength and respect
-USSR, PRC
US economic aid to North Vietnam
- Controversial decision
- Compared to Marshall Plan
  - President’s experience in Congress
  - Opposition in California, US
  - Japan, Germany
  - Harry S. Truman
- Vote on issue
  - Reason

- Agreements
  - Compliance
- Source of funds
- Congressional vote
  - Parochial interests
- Source of funds
- Peaceful development
- Continued war
  - Thailand, Philippines
    - treaty obligations

- US trade policy
- Post-World War II
  - President’s experience in Congress
  - Reciprocal aid [trade agreements]
  - President’s constituency
    - Opposition
  - Trade imbalance
    - US, Europe, Japan
- General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs [GATT]
  - Geneva round
  - Kennedy round
  - Impact on Japan, Europe
- US Congressional-Executive agreement [Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act]
  - Trade legislation
    - Tariff rate negotiations
  - Tariff barriers
  - Reciprocal trade
    - Germany, Japan, Great Britain
- President’s role
-President’s conversation with Wilbur D. Mills
  -Executive power
  -Trade lobbies
  -Tariff rates
-Balance of trade
  -Imports compared to exports
-Benefits to US labor
  -President’s conversation with George Meany
  -Labor’s support for President’s foreign policy
    -Meany, Frank E. Fitzsimons, Peter J. Brennan
-Imports, exports
  -Impact on jobs
-US auto industry
  -“Big three” manufacturers
    -Chrysler dealers
    -Detroit
  -Imports compared to exports
-Congress’s role compared to President’s role

President's accomplishments
  -Compared to freshman’s achievement in 1972 election
  -Contrast with Lyndon B. Johnson
    -Legacy
    -President as fatalist
  -Progress toward world peace
-US strength
  -Private enterprise
  -Compared to USSR
-National greatness
  -Character
  -Sources of decline
    -Wealth
    -Source of softness
  -Prisoners of war [POWs] return
    -Sense of pride, patriotism

Letter to President from a POW
  -President’s reading
    -Capt. Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr.
Conversation No. 873-1 (cont’d)

-Remarks on US
  -President's leadership, B-52 bombing
  -Pride in US
  -Decline of authority
-Gratitude to President
-POW’s ordeal
  -Lessons

Congressional relations
  -Narrow compared to broad goals
  -Denton’s experiences
    -Meaning
  -Work with Congress
    -Restoration of national spirit, faith
  -Meeting with Freshmen Representatives
    -President's thanks
    -Benefits
      -Communication within Republican Party
  -Congressmen's support for President
    -Problems
      -Constituents’ demands
    -Vote of confidence
  -President's experience in Congress
    -Congressional leadership
      -Charles Halleck, Joseph Martin
    -Voting record
      -Party line
    -Reelection of freshmen
      -Support for President

President's birthday plaque
  -President’s friend from New York
    -Inscription

Kissinger
  -Secret mission
    -Boston [?]
Conversation No. 873-1 (cont’d)

Andrew Henshaw [?]
Support for President's vetoes
Conlan et al. left at 5:52 pm.

Date: March 8, 1973
Time: Unknown between 5:52 pm and 5:55 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with an unknown Navy Chief.

[Begin segment reviewed under deed of gift]
Refreshment
[End segment reviewed under deed of gift]

The Chief left at an unknown time before 5:55 pm.

Date: March 8, 1973
Time: Unknown between 5:55 pm and 6:22 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman.
Malcolm E. Smith
- Talk with Haldeman
- Age
- Residence
- Occupation
- Candidacy for Congress
  - Otis G. Pike
    - Visit with President
- Conservatism
  - Criticism of President’s of Family Assistance Program [FAP]
- Haldeman’s telephone call
  - Smith's book on John F. Kennedy
    - Publication difficulties
    - Advertisements [Ads]
    - Response from Crown Publishing
      - Distribution
        - Robert F. Kennedy’s assassination
        - Victory Lasky
  - Copies for Haldeman
  - Republication
    - [Unintelligible name] Robert H. Abplanalp
    - Research
      - Errors
        - Copper in Chile
- Current activities
  - Conservative citizens’ lobby
    - John N. Gardner
- Book on John F. Kennedy
  - Acquisition
  - Reprinting
  - Editing
    - Patrick J. Buchanan
    - Hobart D. ("Hobe") Lewis
  - Clement W. Stone
    - Publishing
  - Lewis
    - Editing
- Criticism by Pike in election campaign
  - Federal prosecution
-Advertisements
  -Federal Trade Commission [FTC]
-Political office
  -Mayor of Misinquoag [?]
-Residence
-Support for President
  -1970 election
    -Pike’s response
    -Long Island

Newbold (“Newby”) Noyes, Jr.
- President’s meeting
- Haldeman’s viewpoint
- Compared to Buchanan’s theory [of electoral possibilities]
  -Letters to President
- Assessment of President’s administration
  -Vindictiveness, meanness
  -Concern
  -1972 election victory
  -Public perception
    -Inside Washington, DC
    -Nationwide

Melvin R. Laird [?]
- Vacation
- Mexico
- Residence
  -Washington, DC
- Wolf Trap Concert
  -Chairmanship
    -David Packard
    -C. R. Smith
- Packard's investment
  -Kay Shouts [?]
David Packard
- Qualities for office
  - Governorship
- Haldeman’s telephone call
  - Meeting
    - Robert H. Finch
  - President’s encouragement to run for governor

[End segment reviewed under deed of gift]
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- John B. Connally
- Deal with People’s Republic of China [PRC]
  - Henry A. Kissinger
  - Governorship

Congressional relations
  - Congressmen’s meetings with White House staff
  - Impression of authority
    - Administrative assistants
    - Bryce N. Harlow
    - Jerry Persons
    - Clark MacGregor
    - William E. Timmons
    - Thomas C. Korologos
  - Problem
    - Timmons
      - Talking paper
        - Compared to MacGregor

House of Representatives’ Freshmen Republicans
  - Strengths
  - Support for President’s policies
    - John B. Conlan
    - Leadership ambition
  - Votes for President’s policies
  - Dependence on President
    - President’s 1972 landslide victory
Conversation No. 873-3 (cont’d)

-Donald E. Young’s victory in Alaska special election
  -Credit to President’s policies
    -Telegram
    -President’s telephone call
    -Telegram’s content
-Donald W. Riegle, Jr.
  -Democrats [?]

[Begin segment reviewed under deed of gift]

Connally
  -Change of political party affiliation
  -Press conference
    -George Christian
  -Location
    -Washington, DC compared to Texas
      -Network story
      -National attention
  -Stature in politics

[End segment reviewed under deed of gift]

House of Representatives’ Freshmen Republican meeting
  -Introduction, photographs
  -Value
  -Topics covered
    -Trade bill, aid to North Vietnam, budget
  -Strength of group
  -Conlan
  -Timidity [?]
  -Age
  -Robert C. (“Bob”) Wilson
  -Conlan
    -Qualities as leader
Economy
- Wholesale prices
- Food and non-food prices
- Meeting
  - [Unintelligible name]
  - George P. Shultz’s attendance

President's meeting with Noyes
- Value
- Noyes’s strong feelings
  - Support for administration
- Weaknesses of administration
  - Coldness, indifference
    - Sammy Davis, Jr.
  - Management skills
  - Image of dullness, lack of charisma
    - Claude Brinegar

President’s meeting with Prisoners of war [POWs]
- Capt. Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr.
  - Private

Presentation of President's policies and philosophy
- President’s meeting with Freshmen Republicans
  - Conlon’s speech
  - Big picture compared to particular votes
- White House staff
  - Weaknesses
    - Speechwriters
    - Domestic Council
  - Programmatic approach
  - Image
    - Television [TV]
    - Image making

Haldeman
- Newsweek article
  - Criticism
  - New York
Tape Subject Log
(rev. May-2010)

Conversation No. 873-3 (cont’d)

-Criticism
  -Requirements of job
-Henry Trewhitt
  -Concerns
  -Information and research
  -Results
  -Search for bad information
-Past article
  -Time
-Newsweek article
  -Rejection
  -Trewhitt

President's public image
-Meeting with Noyes
  -Show of concern
  -President's press conference
  -Question
    -Blacks
    -Appearance of answer in press conference
  -Transcript
-Crosby S. Noyes
  -Agreement with Newbold Noyes
-Newbold Noyes's concern
  -Raymond K. Price, Jr.
    -Compassion
  -President's use of gimmicks
    -John D. Ehrlichman's suggestions
      -Black students
        -High school, trade school
        -Nursing homes, homes for incurables
          -Press coverage [?]
            -Dick Barkette [?]
-Ronald L. Ziegler
-Constance M. (Cornell) (“Connie”) Stuart
-President compared with John F. Kennedy and Franklin D. Roosevelt
  -Role of press in image making
  -John F. Kennedy
    -Relations with Blacks
Conversation No. 873-3 (cont’d)

- President's attitude toward Blacks compared to Lyndon B. Johnson
- President’s experience in school, sports
- White House servants’ opinion
- Political constituency
  - Buchanan’s viewpoint
- Press interviews
  - Show of concern [?]
  - Human interest stories
  - Hard news
  - Compared to John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson
  - Staff release of stories

Coat [?]

Haldeman left at 6:22 pm.

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Conversation no. 873-4

Date: March 8, 1973
Time: Unknown after 6:22 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with an unknown person.

***************************************************************************
[Begin segment reviewed under deed of gift]

Return of someone

[End segment reviewed under deed of gift]
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The unknown person left at an unknown time after 6:22 pm.
Date: March 8, 1973
Time: Unknown after 6:22 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with an unknown person.

[Begin segment reviewed under deed of gift]

Request for someone [?]
- Item [?]

[End segment reviewed under deed of gift]

The unknown person left at an unknown time after 6:22 pm.