Conversation No. 898-1

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 9:18 am and 9:19 am
Location: Oval Office

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 38-83]

Conversation No. 898-2

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: 9:19 am-9:25 am
Location: Oval Office

The President talked with John W. Dean, III.

[See Conversation No. 38-84]

Conversation No. 898-3

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 9:25 am and 9:30 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

President’s schedule
  - Leonard Garment

Weather
Conversation No. 898-3 (cont’d)

-Golf [?]

Francis A. (‘Frank’) Sinatra
-Paul W. Keyes

Bull left at an unknown time before 9:30 am.

Conversation No. 898-4

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: 9:30 am-9:46 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Leonard Garment.

Watergate
-Henry E. Petersen
-William P. Rogers
-Garment’s memo
   -Timing of actions
      -Petersen
      -Jeb Stuart Magruder’s negotiations
      -John W. Dean, III’s negotiations with Ervin Committee
      -President’s conversation with Petersen
      -Resignations
         -Dean
      -US attorneys
   -Action by President
      -Credibility before American people
      -Effects
         -H. R. (‘Bob’) Haldeman, John D. Ehrlichman
      -Dean
         -Resignation
         -Suspension
            -[Horace] Chapman (‘Chappie’) Rose
Conversations No. 898-4 (cont’d)

- John N. Mitchell
  - Telephone call to Garment, April 16, 1973
  - Possible visit by Garment
  - Martha (“Beall”) Mitchell
  - Role in Watergate
- Action by President
  - Public opinion concerning President’s position on Watergate
  - Rose
  - Ronald L. Ziegler
  - Haldeman, Ehrlichman
    - US attorney
    - Meeting with President
    - Richard G. Kleindienst [?]
- Dean
  - Report
  - Mitchell
- Possible statement by President
  - Public opinion
  - Public knowledge of leading officials
    - Henry A. Kissinger, Mitchell, Haldeman, and Ehrlichman
    - Compared to Sherman Adams [?]
- Watergate crisis
  - Comparison with Teapot Dome
  - Action by President
- Garment’s schedule
  - Rose, Dean

Garment left at 9:46 am.

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 9:47 am and 9:47 am
Location: Oval Office
The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

President’s schedule
- Meeting with H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman
  - John D. Ehrlichman

Bull left at an unknown time before 9:47 am.

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: 9:47 am-9:59 am
Location: Oval Office

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

[A transcript of the following portion of this conversation was initially prepared for the Watergate Special Prosecution Force (WSPF) and can be found in Record Group (RG) 460, Box 174, pages 1-7. The Nixon Presidential Materials Staff reviewed the transcript and made changes as necessary. This transcript has been reviewed under the provisions of the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act of 1974 (PRMPA). The National Archives does not guarantee its accuracy.]

[A transcript of the following portion of this conversation was also prepared Richard Nixon’s Special White House Counsel for Watergate Matters and submitted to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives. This transcript can be found in Submission of Recorded Presidential Conversations (SRPC), pages 980-986 (1-7). Please refer to the RG 460 transcript.]  

[Begin transcribed portion]

Rose Mary Woods entered at an unknown time after 9:47 am.

Woods left at an unknown time before 9:59 am.
Conversation No. 898-6 (cont’d)

Henry A. Kissinger entered at an unknown time after 9:47 am.

President’s schedule
- President’s meeting with Guilio Andreotti
- Presence of John A. Volpe

Kissinger left at an unknown time before 9:59 am.

[Resume transcribed portion]

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2
[National security]
[Duration: 3 s]

PRESIDENT’S SCHEDULE

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

An unknown man entered at an unknown time after 9:47 am.

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 9:59 am.

[End transcribed portion]
Haldeman left at 9:59 am.

Conversation No. 898-7

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: 9:59 am-10:00 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Thelma C. (“Pat”) Nixon.

Weather [?]

Thelma C. (“Pat”) Nixon left at 10:00 am.

Unknown persons [United States Secret Service [USSS] agents?] met at an unknown time after 10:00 am.

President’s schedule
- Meeting with Giulio Andreotti
The unknown persons left at an unknown time before 10:34 am.

Conversation No. 898-8

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: 10:34 - 12:19 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Giulio Andreotti, Andrea Cagiati, Niel A. Seiderman, Paolo Gestulo [?], and Anna Saxon. Members of the press and the White House photographer were present at the beginning of the meeting. Portions of this conversation are in Italian.

Italian press session
- Schedule

Welcome ceremony
- Andreotti’s appreciation
[Photograph session]

White House correspondents
- Relationship with President
  - Compared to promotional weeks
  - Volunteer opportunities, good health, bread, wheat
  - "Be Kind to Your President" Day
  - "Be Kind to the Press"

[Translation of President’s remarks into Italian]

White House correspondents
- Relationship with Spiro T. Agnew

[Translation of President’s remarks into Italian]

President’s greetings to members of press
- Photographs of meeting
- Past photograph, circa 1971
- Author of previous article on Henry A. Kissinger
- Ronald L. Ziegler
  - Presidential pens

Members of the press and the White House photographer left at an unknown time after 10:34 am.

Andreotti’s schedule
- Meeting with President
  - Postponement

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Italian parliament
- Compared to US Congress
  - Close votes

Henry A. Kissinger entered at an unknown time after 10:34 am.
Greetings

Seating arrangements

Meeting agenda
  - Informal nature of talks
  - State dinner
    - Seating
  - Morning discussion
  - Similar world views of US and Italy
    - Contrasted with meetings with other world leaders
      - Confrontation

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Italian friendship with US
  - Italian domestic policies
    - Majority viewpoint
    - Minority
      - Communist opposition
    - Socialist support

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Italian domestic politics

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Italian domestic politics
  - Postwar parliamentary coalition
    - Socialists, Communists, New Conscience Party
      - Opposition
    - Majority
Conversation No. 898-8 (cont’d)

-Social Democratic Party
-Socialist International
- Wily Brandt
- East Germany

-Italian Socialist Party
- Pietro Nenni, Francesco De Martino
- Center-Leftist government, 1952

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Italian domestic politics
- Postwar parliamentary coalitions
  - Aldo Moro, Amintore Fanfani, Mariano Rumor, Emilio Columbo
- Disagreements
  - Foreign policy
  - Socialists
  - Domestic policy
  - Center-leftists
  - Fascists
- Dissolution of parliament

- Current government
  - Christian Democrats in Cabinet
  - Confidence
  - Elections

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Italian domestic politics
- Coalition government
  - Elections
  - Social Democrats, Leftists
  - Majority
    - House compared with Senate
    - Margin
    - Socialist support
    - Christian Democrats
- Christian Democrat convention, June 1973
-Role of Socialists

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Italian domestic politics
- Center-Left Cabinet
- Possible crisis
  - Support for neo-Fascists
  - Role of Communists
- US role

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Italian domestic politics
- Andreotti’s coalition government
  - President’s admiration
  - Margin of majority
    - Stance

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Italian domestic politics
- Majority
  - Difficulty

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Italian domestic politics
- Andreotti’s historic role

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Meeting agenda
Stephen B. Bull entered at an unknown time after 10:34 am.

President’s schedule
- Meetings with Andreotti
  - Changes in schedule

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Giovanni Leone’s letter to President
  - Concerns
  - Peace settlement
- Peace settlement
  - US support
  - Compared to Vietnam, Indochina
- Andreotti’s visit to Soviet Union
  - Talks with Alexis N. Kosygin, October 1972
- Oil interests
- Italy’s role
  - Interest
    - Development prospects
    - Compared with capability
    - Proximity, security

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Andreotti’s talks with Kosygin
- President’s and Brandt’s election
- Kissinger
  - Kosygin’s admiration

Middle East
- Difficulty composed to Vietnam

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]
Middle East
-Significance compared to Vietnam
-US casualties

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
-Possible effects of failure to settle
-Oil
-Confrontation of super powers

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
-US-Italy communication, correspondence
-Candor
-Kissinger’s role

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
-US role in peace negotiations
-Meetings with Israeli representations
-Meeting with Anwar Sadat

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
-US role in peace negotiations
-Meetings with Jordan

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
-US role in peace negotiations
-Discussions with Soviet Union leaders
[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Peace negotiations
  - Degree of disagreement

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- US role in peace negotiations

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- US hope for breakthrough

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Italy’s role
  - Andreotti’s previous statement

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Italy’s role
  - Possible impact on Israel and Egypt

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Italy’s role
  - Geographic, cultural, historic ties to Arab bloc countries
Conversation No. 898-8 (cont’d)

Middle East
- Italy’s role
  - Diplomatic policies
    - Mediterranean states
    - Possible influence

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- US-Israel relations
  - Impact on US relations with Arab states
    - Moderate course

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Italy’s role contrasted with US

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Prospects for peace
  - Israel’s neighbors [Arab nations]
    - Support of allies
    - Soviet Union
    - Extremists
    - Italy’s role
    - Relations with non-Communist states, as compared to Communist states
    - Relations with anarchists
    - Potential danger

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Middle East
- Provisional government
  - Suez Canal
  - Evacuation of territories
  - Rehabilitation of canal
  - Detente
    - Dialogue between Arabs and Israelis
- Balance of power
  - Israel compared to Arab nations
    - Petroleum revenue
    - Armaments
  - Negotiations
  - President’s view
    - Longevity of Israel
    - Surrounding hostility
    - Financial resources
      - Oil
    - Strength of opposing military forces

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
  - Peace negotiations
    - Interim settlement
      - Israeli’s willingness
      - United Arab Republics [UAR] [Egypt]
        - Suez Canal
        - Compared to general settlement

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
  - US role
    - Interim settlement
    - Goal
      - Stability of region

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]
Middle East
- President’s conversations with Golda Meir
- President’s conversations with representatives of Anwar el-Sadat [Mohammed Hafez Ismail]

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Kissinger
- Candid discussion
  - Shared interests
  - Influence

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- US policy
  - Compared to Andreotti, Leoni
  - Interim settlement

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Egypt’s position
  - Interim settlement compared to overall settlement

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- President’s proposal
  - Meeting with Ismail
  - Sadat’s public announcement
  - Sovereignty separated from security
[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Sadat’s interview with Newsweek
  - Statement on US attitude
  - Mention of President’s proposal

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
  - Peace negotiations
    - General principles
      - Egypt
        - Interim settlement
        - Overall settlement

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
  - US policy

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
  - Jordan
    - Settlement
      - Possibility
      - ”Egyptian model”
      - Timing
        - Egypt negotiations
          - [Hussein, King of Jordan] Hussein ibn Talal

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
  - Jordan
Conversation No. 898-8 (cont’d)

-Assessment of Israel’s position

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Jordan
  - Assessment of Israel’s position

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Translation
  - Communication of message

Middle East
- Jordan settlement
  - Egypt negotiations
    - Progress
  - Timing
    - Hussein’s possible action

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Middle East
- Italy’s diplomacy
  - US role in negotiations
    - Priority
    - Optimism
    - Engagement of all parties
    - Goal of settlement
  - Arab public opinion
    - US objectives
      - Israel’s influence
      - Fairness
        - Messages to Israel, Egypt

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]
Middle East
  -Arab nations
    -Shift in attitude
      -Recognition of Israel’s right to existence
        -Compared with occupied territories
    -Integration of smaller countries
      -Sheikhdoms
      -Oil resources
        -Per capita wealth
        -Speculation
    -Possible action by United Nations [UN]
      -Balance of power

Year of Europe
  -Announcement of President’s visit
  -President’s visit to Italy
    -Timing
      -Italian domestic politics
        -Anti-US sentiment
      -Anti-European Economic Community [EEC] sentiment
        -Communists
    -Preparation, timing
      -Political event in Italy
    -Timing
      -Autumn

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Year of Europe
  -President’s visit
    -Communications
      -”Big Four”
    -North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] Council
- Timing

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Year of Europe
- President’s visit to Italy
  - Timing
    - Discussions with Andreotti
    - Concerns
    - 30-day framework for planning
      - Preferences
    - Kissinger
      - Preparatory talks

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

Year of Europe
- President’s visit with EEC
  - Compared with NATO Council
    - Brussels
  - Significance
  - President’s visits to non-friendly countries compared to friendly countries
    - Possible reception
  - President’s previous trip to Rome
    - Andreotti’s displeasure at reception
    - Compared to President’s domestic travel

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

“Price of freedom”

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Year of Europe
- Possible outcomes
-New approach to Atlantic community
-Preparatory talks
-Italy
- Compared with “Grand Tour”
-Press characterization
-Working trip
- Compared to President’s trips to People’s Republic of China [PRC], Soviet Union

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
-Dangers posed to Atlantic alliance

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
-President’s previous trip to Italy
-US-Soviet Union relations
-Italy’s position
-Detente

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
-US-Soviet Union detente
-Effects on Western Europe
-Atlantic alliance
-Andreotti’s remarks
-US policy
-Priority

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
-Dangers posed to Atlantic alliance
Conversation No. 898-8 (cont’d)

-CSCE
  -Italy’s support

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
  -Possible effect
    -Reduction of tensions between East, West

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

CSCE
  -Communist influence
    -Europe’s defenses

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions [MBFR]
  -Western Europe
    -Defense forces

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
  -MBFR discussions
    -Possible effects
      -Reduction in defenses
      -Incentives to Soviet Union
      -Possible dissolution of Atlantic alliance

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Soviet Union talks
  -Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT] II

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]
US-Soviet Union disarmament
  -Europe, Italy’s response

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Soviet Union negotiations
  -SALT I and SALT II
  -Possible effects on Atlantic alliance

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
  -Dangers posed to Atlantic alliance
  -President’s support for European unity

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

European unity
  -Alcide de Gasperi

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
  -Possible economic confrontation
    -EEC

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
  -NATO
    -Military strength of Atlantic alliance
      -Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions [MBFR]
        -Soviet Union

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
Conversation No. 898-8 (cont’d)

-US-Europe relations
-Atlantic alliance
-Source of loyalty, strength
-Effect on Atlantic alliance [NATO]

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

-US-Europe relations
-Atlantic alliance [NATO]
-Opposition in Europe, US
-Support for unilateral reduction in forces

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

-US-Europe relations
-European media, US media
-Liberal influence

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

-US-Europe relations
-Neo-isolationism
-Effects on US, Europe

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

-US-Europe relations
-Leadership
-Strength of stance
-Preservation of Atlantic alliance
-Soviet Union diplomacy

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
- Prospects for global peace
  - Strength of Atlantic alliance

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
- Atlantic alliance
  - Importance of European countries, Canada
    - Leadership
      - Edward R. G. Heath, Andreotti, Georges J. R. Pompidou, Willy Brandt, President
    - Strength of stance
      - Media, public opinion
      - Parochialism
    - Effect on peace prospect, detente

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
- Public statements
  - Leaders of smaller countries

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

US-Europe relations
- Realists
  - President’s meetings with Heath, Andreotti, Brandt, and Pompidou
- Summit
  - PRC, Soviet Union, Europe
  - Leaders’ input
  - Substance contrasted with ceremony
[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

**US-Europe relations**
- President’s policies
- Opinions, moral stance
- Italian domestic politics
  - Media relations
    - Liberals, conservatives
    - Election results contrasted with press analysis
- Public opinion
  - Cultivation of educated classes
    - “Men of culture, men of science”
    - Influence
      - Public opinion through media
- Media
  - Radicals
  - Compromise
  - Cowardess

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

**US-Europe relations**
- Atlantic alliance
- US diplomacy
  - Soviet Union, PRC
    - Effect on alliance
      - Strength
    - European public opinion
- Strength
  - Possibility for detente
    - Soviet Union leaders
      - Authority for contact, negotiations
        - Public opinion
- MBFR
  - Significance, necessity
Conversation No. 898-8 (cont’d)

-US military commitments compared to Europe
  -US human, financial investments
  -Increased European investment
  -Andreotti’s position
    -President’s appreciation
    -Domestic appreciation

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

State dinner
  -Continued conversation
  -Seating arrangements

President’s forthcoming meeting with Andreotti, April 18
  -Topics of conversation
    -Trade, economics
    -MBFR
    -Other topics
      -Kissinger
    -Economics
      -Andreotti’s meeting with George P. Shultz and William J. Casey, April 18

[Translation of the President’s and Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]

Shultz
  -President’s confidence
  -Casey

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

Kissinger’s introduction to Andreotti
  -Lorenzo Natali [?]

[Translation of Kissinger’s remarks into Italian]
Natali [?]
   -Intellectual

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

[Andreotti’s remarks in Italian]

   Natali [?]
   -Italy’s ambassador [to Austria or International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) ?]
      -Vienna
      -Beauty

   Andreotti’s schedule
   -Lunch with State Department officials
   -Blair House
      -Pleasantness

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

   Williamsburg, Virginia
   -Beauty in springtime

[Translation of the President’s remarks into Italian]

   Camp David compared to Williamsburg, Virginia
   -Seasonal changes

[Translation of the President’s remark into Italian]

   Andreotti et al. left at 12:19 pm.
Date: April 17, 1973  
Time: Unknown between 12:19 pm and 12:35 pm  
Location: Oval Office

Manolo Sanchez met with an unknown man.

Scheduling

Arrival

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

Date: April 17, 1973  
Time: Unknown after 12:19 pm and before 12:35 pm  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

[Begin segment reviewed under deed of gift]

Refreshment

[End segment reviewed under deed of gift]

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 12:15 pm.
Conversation No. 898-24

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown after 12:19 and before 2:35 pm
Location: Oval Office

Unknown men met.

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

President’s location
   -Office
   -Direction
   -Affirmation
   -Question
   -Return

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

The unknown men left at an unknown time before 12:35 pm.

Conversation No. 898-10

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 12:19 pm and 12:35 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

President’s schedule
Bull left at an unknown time before 12:35 pm.

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 12:19 pm and 12:35 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

Refreshment

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

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 12:19 pm and 12:35 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

Briefcase [?]

President’s trip to Florida

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 12:35 pm.
The President met with H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman.

President’s schedule
- Lunch

Visit of Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti
- Meeting with President
- John A. Volpe
  - Benefits of presence
  - Remarks
  - Political advantages

[The transcript of the following portion of this conversation was initially prepared for the Watergate Special Prosecution Force (WSPF) and can be found in Record Group (RG) 460, Box 174, pages 1-95. The Nixon Presidential Materials Staff reviewed the transcript and made changes as necessary. This transcript has been reviewed under the provisions of the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act of 1974 (PRMPA). The National Archives does not guarantee its accuracy.]

[The transcript of the following portion of this conversation was also prepared Richard Nixon’s Special White House Counsel for Watergate Matters and submitted to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives. This transcript can be found in Submission of Recorded Presidential Conversations (SRPC), pages 987-1058 (1-70). Please refer to the RG 460 transcript.]

[Begin transcribed portion]
BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[National security]
[Duration: 20 s]

CHILE

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

[Resume transcribed portion]

Haldeman left at an unknown time after 12:35 pm.

Haldeman entered at an unknown time before 2:10 pm.

Ziegler entered at 2:10 pm.

Ziegler left at an unknown time before 2:20 pm.

[End transcribed portion]

Haldeman and Ehrlichman left at 2:20 pm.
Conversation No. 898-13

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 2:20 pm and 2:30 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with an unknown man.

Refreshment

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 2:30 pm.

Conversation No. 898-14

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 2:20 pm and 2:30 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

President’s schedule
  -Henry E. Peterson
    -Location
    -Meeting with President
      -Executive Office Building [EOB]

Bull left at an unknown time before 2:30 pm.
Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 2:20 pm and 2:39 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Manolo Sanchez.

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

Refreshment

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

Sanchez left.

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 2:20 pm and 2:39 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Ronald L. Ziegler.

Leonard Garment
-Request for President
  -Ziegler
  -Item
  -John D. Ehrlichman
  -Garment’s plan
Ziegler left at an unknown time before 2:39 pm.

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 2:20 pm and 2:39 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

Henry Petersen
-Meeting time

Bull left at an unknown time before 2:39 pm.

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 2:20 pm and 2:39 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President talked with the White House operator.

[See Conversation No. 38-85]

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: 2:39 pm-2:40 pm
Location: Oval Office
The President talked with John D. Ehrlichman.

[See Conversation No. 38-86]

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Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 2:40 pm and 2:46 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with an unknown man.

[A transcript of the following portion of this conversation was also prepared Richard Nixon’s Special White House Counsel for Watergate Matters and submitted to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives. This transcript can be found in Submission of Recorded Presidential Conversations (SRPC), page 1060 (1). Please refer to the logging below.]

President’s schedule
- Meeting with Henry E. Petersen

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 2:46 pm.

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Date: April 17, 1973
Time: 2:46-3:49 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Henry E. Petersen.

[A transcript of the following portion of this conversation was also prepared Richard Nixon’s Special White House Counsel for Watergate Matters and submitted to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives. This transcript can be found in Submission of Recorded Presidential Conversations (SRPC), page 1060 (1). Please refer to the logging below.]

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Watergate
-Grand jury
  -President’s knowledge
    -John N. Mitchell
  -President’s conversation with William P. Rogers, April 16, 1973
    -Rogers
  -John W. Dean, III
    -Conversation with Mitchell
    -Role in White House during campaign
      -Information from grand jury
  -Jeb Stuart Magruder
    -Conversations with officials
  -Dean
    -Conversations with Mitchell
    -Information from grand jury in 1972
    -Conversations with Petersen
      -Leaks from grand jury
      -Involvement in Watergate
        -E. Howard Hunt, Jr. materials
      -Status reports
        -Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reports
    -Conversations with L. Patrick Gray III
  -President’s forthcoming statement
    -Timing
    -Content
    -Ervin Committee hearings
      -Mitchell
      -Comparison with Hiss case
      -President’s cooperation
      -Judge John J. Sirica
  -Departures from White House staff
    -Dean
      -H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman
        -Rogers’s opinion
-Dean
  -Timing of Dean’s conversation with Ehrlichman
  -Mitchell and Magruder
-Departures from White House staff
  -Ehrlichman, Haldeman, Dean

-Indictments
  -President’s policy
  -Magruder
  -Unindicted coconspirators
  -Magruder
    -Guilt
  -Legal meaning of “unindicted coconspirator” term

-Immunity
  -Dean
    -Gordon C. Strachan
    -President’s conversation with Rogers concerning Gray
    -Public impression
    -Possible evidence against Haldeman and Ehrlichman
  -Dean
    -Need for corroboration
      -Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Charles W. Colson
  -Immunity
    -Strachan
    -Possible evidence against Ehrlichman

-Liddy
  -Hunt
  -Testimony in grand jury

-Dean
  -Immunity
    -Relationship with Petersen
    -Possible public reaction
    -Gray
    -Removal from White House staff

-Magruder
  -Possible indictment
    -Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Colson
Conversation No. 898-21 (cont’d)

-Mitchell, Frederick C. LaRue, Robert C. Mardian, Dean
-Haldeman and Ehrlichman

An unknown man entered at an unknown time after 2:46 pm.
President’s signatures
-Ehrlichman’s report

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 3:49 pm.

Watergate
-Haldeman and Ehrlichman
-Effect of President and the Presidency
-Resignations
-Dean
-Haldeman, Ehrlichmann
-President’s conversation with Dean
-Strachan
-Strachan
-Possible role
-Evidence against
-Possible prosecution
-Immunity by estoppel

-Dean
-Immunity
-Rogers’s advice
-Public’s belief
-Immunity
-Plea of a lesser charge
-Sirica
-Magruder
-Lawyer’s threat
-Mitchell
-Attention to detail
-Magruder
-LaRue
-Grand jury testimony
Conversation No. 898-21 (cont’d)

-Petersen’s conversation with Peter L. Maroulis
  -Maroulis’s conversation with Liddy
  -Liddy
-Rogers
-Reaction to Watergate
-Dean
  -Immunity
  -Petersen’s conversation with Gray
    -Gray’s meeting with Dean and Ehrlichman concerning Hunt material
    -Destruction of material
    -Knowledge of contents of envelopes
-President’s possible statement
  -Content and phrasing
    -Immunity
    -Strachan
-Haldeman and Ehrlichman
  -Possible indictments
-Magruder’s possible statement
  -Dean
  -Haldeman and Ehrlichman
  -Sirica
  -Timing
    -Notice to President
-Washington Post article
-Haldeman and Ehrlichman
  -Possible indictments
  -Sirica
-Hunt’s threats
  -Colson
  -Ehrlichman, Dean
  -McCord’s testimony concerning funds
    -Dorothy Hunt
    -LaRue
-Herbert W. Kalmbach
  -Relationship to President
  -Petersen’s instructions to Earl J. Silbert
Role in fundraising
  -Mitchell
  -Motive
-Magruder’s possible statement
  -Timing
  -Ervin and Sirica
-Action by President
  -President’s forthcoming statement
  -Magruder and Dean
  -Mitchell

Petersen left at 3:49 pm.

Date:  April 17, 1973
Time:  Unknown between 3:49 pm and 3:50 pm
Location:  Oval Office

The President met with an Lawrence M. Higby.

President’s statement on Watergate
  -Editing
    -John D. Ehrlichman
    -Senators

President’s schedule
  -Meeting with John D. Ehrlichman and H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 3:50 pm.
Conversation No. 898-25

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 3:49 pm and 3:50 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull.

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

President’s schedule
- Meeting with John D. Ehrlichman and H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman
- Copy [?]

[End segment reviewed under deed of gift]
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Bull left at an unknown time before 3:50 pm.

Conversation No. 898-23/899-1

Date: April 17, 1973
Time: Unknown between 3:50 pm and 4:41 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman.

Watergate
- Press statement
  - William E. Timmons

Ehrlichman talked with the White House operator at an unknown time between 3:50 pm and 4:35
Ehrlichman talked with an unknown woman [receptionist?] at an unknown time between 3:50 pm and 4:35 pm.

[Conversation No. 898-23B]

Ehrlichman conferred with the President and Haldeman at an unknown time between 3:50 pm.
and 4:35 pm.

Timmons’s location

[End telephone conversation]

Ehrlichman talked with Timmons at an unknown time between 3:50 pm and 4:35 pm.

[Conversation No. 898C]

[Begin telephone conversation]

[See Conversation No. 38-88]

Ehrlichman conferred with the President and Haldeman at an unknown time between 3:50 pm and 4:39 pm.

Ronald L. Ziegler entered at an unknown time after 3:50 pm.

Ziegler left at an unknown time before 4:39 pm.

An unknown person entered at an unknown time after 3:50 pm.

Unknown person left at an unknown time before 4:35 pm.

[End transcribed portion]

[An unknown portion of this conversation was not recorded at this time while the tape was changed. The remainder of this conversation continues on audiotape Oval 899 as Conversation No. 899-1.]