

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**Tape Subject Log***(rev. 10/06)*

Transcript #1: Part of a conversation between President Nixon and H. R. (ABob≡) Haldeman in the Oval Office between 12:36 pm and 1:06 pm on May 6, 1971

Conversation No. 493-15#1

President: You got to figure that on any trip at this point, Bob, is going to be related to our [unintelligible] hypersensitive with regard to going to Des Moines about, well, even though you, me, oh, even though wherever we, even when we were in Indianapolis before, we had some demonstrators. We=ll have some now. And, uh, the only question is, is it, is it good to, is it good to get the press to write that story, a chance to write that story rather than this story. You see my point? I don=t think the problem is too great, and the track -- you get a few. They=re probably too bad there. And, uh, [unintelligible] Indiana and so forth, everybody=ll be watchin= Indiana like they watch Iowa. [Unintelligible] somebody smart, sorta feel it out. I mean, uh, in terms of well, uh, how=re folks feelin= there? What do you think?

Haldeman: Yeah, yeah.

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Transcript #2: Part of a conversation between President Nixon and H. R. (ABob≡) Haldeman in the Oval Office between 12:36 pm and 1:06 pm on May 6, 1971

Conversation No. 493-15#2

President: I am, I do think these police handled this thing well out here, don=t you?

Haldeman: Damned right.

President: Uh, [unintelligible] an example for the country. It=s, uh, ya know, we didn=t, we didn=t bust any heads >n=, uh, we have a, this Government kept running. [Unintelligible] the damn people.

Haldeman: You just didn=t, you didn=t hurt anybody, you didn=t, you know, anybody who was here for a demonstration could afford to spend the night in jail. Hell, they didn=t mind spending the night out on the park in, in their sleeping bags, uh --.

President: Out there -- they came here to break the law, they=ve gotta pay the price. Anybody that breaks the law gotta pay the price. They deserve what [unintelligible].

Haldeman: [Unintelligible] a lot for taking the heat too. I mean, there=s no --

President: Yeah.

Haldeman: -- you don=t see any wafflin= on his part, >n= he --

President: Some of >em are Cabinet officers.

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Conv. No. 493-15#2 (cont.)

Haldeman: -- stands right up there and says, AI made the decision and I did it >n= --

President: That=s right, that=s right.

Haldeman: -- for the right reasons.≡ [Unintelligible] could have passed the buck and said,
AWell, I just did what the Justice Department told me to do. All I am is a hired
hand.≡