

Conversation No. 741-10

TRANSCRIPT OF A RECORDING OF A MEETING
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND H.R. HALDEMAN,
THE OVAL OFFICE, JUNE 23, 1972, FROM
1:04 P.M. TO 1:13 PM

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(Background noise, sound of writing and some
unintelligible conversation)

HALDEMAN: (On the phone) (Unintelligible) Where are
they? Okay. I'll be up in just a minute.

(40 second pause, with sounds of writing)

HALDEMAN: I see a time way back (unintelligible) might
find out about that report before we do
anything.

PRESIDENT: (Unintelligible)

(35 second pause)

PRESIDENT: Okay (unintelligible) and, ah, just, just
postpone the (unintelligible, with noises)
hearings (15 second unintelligible, with
noises) and all that garbage. Just say that
I have to take a look at the primaries
(unintelligible) recover (unintelligible) I
just don't (unintelligible very bad, to have
this fellow Hunt, ah, you know, ah, it's,
he, he knows too damn much and he was
involved, we happen to know that. And that
it gets out that the whole, this is all
involved in the Cuban thing, that it's a
fiasco, and it's going to make the FB, ah
CIA look bad, it's going to make Hunt look
bad, and it's likely to blow the whole, uh,
Bay of Pigs thing which we think would be
very unfortunate for CIA and for the country
at this time, and for American foreign
policy, and he just better tough it and lay
it on them. Isn't that what you...

HALDEMAN: Yeah, that's, that's the basis we'll do it
on and just leave it at that.

PRESIDENT: I don't want them to get any ideas we're
doing it because our concern is political.

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HALDEMAN: Right.

PRESIDENT: And at the same time, I wouldn't tell them it is not political...

HALDEMAN: Right.

PRESIDENT: I would just say "Look, it's because of the Hunt involvement," just say (unintelligible, with noise) sort of thing, the whole cover is, uh, basically this (unintelligible).

HALDEMAN: (Unintelligible) Well they've got some pretty good ideas on this need thing.

PRESIDENT: George Schultz did a good paper on that, I read it...

(Unintelligible voices heard leaving the room)