

**NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF****Tape Subject Log***(rev. 9/08)*

Part of a telephone conversation between President Nixon in the Oval Office and John B. Connally between 10:16 am and 10:19 am on March 23, 1971

Conversation No. 472-6

President: Hello. ["Yeah" in background]

Yeah, I thought it was, uh, was very, very helpful for, uh, you to give those guys a good shot like that this morning. And as I, and I as I am sure you could see I was, uh, trying to shame a few of them a bit because --

Yeah.

Yeah. Well, uh, I, I tell you that it's very tight in the Senate. It looks like we're about two votes short. Isn't that something?

Yeah. But it's, but for this country and what it is, it's, uh, almost a death wish isn't it? It's a death wish. They, uh, we, uh, we're afraid to do this or that because of, uh -- Well, it's a -- as the country gets more and more intelligent, they get, uh, more and more fearful; and that's, and that's what happened to the Greeks, and what happened to the Romans, it's what's happened to the British, it's what happened, you know -- That's what happens.

Yeah. Huh, well, it's a retreat from greatness, too. It's a retreat from leadership. Retreat from leader -- but anyway, we're on the side of the angels, and, uh, and I appreciated your picking up and pitching. That's the way to do it, slug it right to them.

Um hm.

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Yeah.

Yeah. Well, you've handled it all extremely well. That's all right. [Laughs]

Yeah. Yeah, the -- don't worry. They, uh, they'll remember it. [Laughs]

Yeah, at 10:30. [Telephone rings]

Yeah. Yeah. They're quite a, quite a group.

Uh hm.

You're, you're, you leaning to, to the, [telephone rings] to do it this year?

Uh hm. Uh hm.

Huh.

Yeah.

Get out the argument that if you do it this year you raise the price and all that sort of thing.

Right.

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Conv. No. 472-6 (cont.)

Well, I'll try to, uh, be equipped for other things. He's going to, uh, meet with 'em at 10:30, and I'm going to try to keep --

Yeah. Yeah, but I want to be sure I don't, don't, don't cross the bridge today, that's what I mean, and I'm glad to talk to you about it. I didn't know that --
Okay.

Got it.

Um hm. Um hm.

Yeah. All right.

Okay.

We'll [unintelligible] in there.

[Hangs up]

President: Hello [unintelligible].