

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

Transcript #1: Part of a conversation between President Nixon and Ronald L. Ziegler in the Oval Office between 2:14 pm and 2:30 pm on May 4, 1971.

Conversation No. 490-22#1

President: I was wondering how the, uh, press was reacting to the, uh, [unintelligible] the, uh, [unintelligible].

Ziegler: You mean demonstrations?

President: Muskie and Humphrey sent 'em up the wall. [Laughs]

Ziegler: I think, uh --

President: Did this, did this --

Ziegler: -- I talked, uh --

President: -- this --

Ziegler: -- I --

President: -- this one [unintelligible] they, it's just killin' 'em, I can, I know. It's got [unintelligible].

Ziegler: I talked to a lot of 'em on the plane on the way back, uh --.

President: I know, but, I mean, after they see, that ended up on television. They musta seen it last night --

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Ziegler: Yeah.

President: -- so, pretty bad.

Ziegler: The, uh, general reaction is, uh, [unintelligible] they understand it had to be dealt with the way it was. A few of them in the briefing this morning extended their civil, civil libertarian --

President: Sure.

Ziegler: -- point of view come out [clears throat] on, uh --

President: Well, they have to do something.

Ziegler: -- on the arrest of the seven thousand.

President: Eight thousand. Well, they have to --

Ziegler: [Unintelligible] constitutional rights --.

President: -- do something [unintelligible].

Ziegler: And one of the District quakes here mouthed off. But I told 'em in a briefing this morning, uh, when I was asked --

President: Yeah.

Ziegler: -- you know, what the President thought about the thing. I said just very quickly

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and curtly, I said, repeated what you'd said before, 'n' I said, "The President felt that the, uh, matter was handled, uh, very appropriately, very well by the District of Columbia officials and by Chief Wilson and the men of the --

President: That's right.

Ziegler: -- District Police Force."

President: Stick right with it.

Ziegler: Period.

President: Stick right with it. That's right.

Ziegler: And, ah, I --

President: I know.

Ziegler: -- indicated that, uh, [unintelligible].

President: [Unintelligible]. Everybody got in a fair shot. They didn't want to clear the streets, get the hell off, 'n' that's all there is to it. [Unintelligible] this kinda stuff. The country this time, though, is on our side, it's, oh, Christ, the old [unintelligible].

Ziegler: Scott really launched --

President: Huh?

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Ziegler: -- into Muskie this morning.

President: Who did?

Ziegler: Scott.

President: Where? In [unintelligible].

Ziegler: In, in a briefing.

President: What'd he say?

Ziegler: He said, "I'm doing this on my own. It's a personal, uh, view," and he was kinda helped by his questions. "But", he said, "There are tho-, there are many, you know, up on the Senate," he said, "prominent men who, who, uh, were praising guys like Rennie, uh, Rennie Davis. And, uh, today," he said, "where are they now that they're, you know, pushing violence and so forth?" And they said, uh, [clears throat] "Are you referring to Muskie, Senator Muskie, Senator Scott?" And he said, "Well, it's, it's, it's, it's not, it's more than coincidence that you raised his name. But now that you've raised his name, apparently, uh, there's some reason that you could do that." And he said --

President: Good.

Ziegler: -- "The record's clear," and, uh, he did a good job --

President: Good.

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- Ziegler: -- on that. Then they asked him -- he handled this very well -- he said, "Well, did the President express that in a meeting?" Said, "[Unintelligible] giving you my personal views." Matter of fact, he said, "Ron, I don't ev-even think, uh, Rennie Davis' name was mentioned this morning, was it?" I said, "No." He said --.
- President: Hmm.
- Ziegler: So, it was good. He --.
- President: You mentioned demonstration. You didn't mention --.
- Ziegler: That's right. We covered that. The, I referred to your, uh, see, Chief Wilson used the content of your phone call the other --
- President: Yeah.
- Ziegler: -- day.
- President: He did [unintelligible].
- Ziegler: I referred to that and, uh, didn't back off at all on this, you know, the --.
- President: [Unintelligible] Muskie 'n' Humphrey 'n' Teddy, uh, are all in a spot on this because they all, either directly or indirectly, supported the other demonstration here. I would've done that. It's damn hard to separate from this one. Last fall too many o' the candidates for election let their opponents separate from the demonstrators, you know what I mean? You gotta hang your, you gotta hang it right around the neck and just keep pushing [unintelligible] --

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Ziegler: That's right.

President: -- [unintelligible]. Just, just like the, uh, let 'em deny it 'n' say [unintelligible] and then call on 'em to not and just keep making the charge and say they've never denied it. That's the way to do it. Only way to do it is to keep making the charge --

Ziegler: That's right.

President: -- that they never denied it. That's what they did with us in the Burger thing. You know, they --

Ziegler: Sure they did.

President: -- they kept hitting us and hitting us and hitting us as if we'd never denied it. And then to, 'n' they'd say, uh, "Well, now, that about that? Whattya think about that?" Just keep 'em talking about the issue. Keep them talking about the issue and finally it, uh, if you could, you might get this across to them, to the people I mentioned, briefing with Colson and his [unintelligible]. But the way our people should handle them is to keep charging, keep making the charge, but never, never say that they've changed their minds. Just simply say, "The Democratic candidates -- " buh-buh-buh, name, put them all against McGovern, M-, get a name, McGovern, Muskie, McGovern, Muskie, Kennedy, and Humphrey. That's a [unintelligible] get it, get it, h-, get it, get it, get it so it sounds like four, uh, have all supported the demonstrators. Then let them, let them say, "Oh, no, not me." These're the ones that supported the demonstrations. Don't, and, and just say that the, uh, and then condemn 'em for it, call on them to repudiate the --.

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Ziegler: [Unintelligible].

President: Oh, no, they're civil libertarians. I'll tell ya why they're, they're not scared because of civil liberties. They're scared because they're press people 'n' they're concerned. It's because they realize this, uh, uh, sorta bearin' on the war a bit. Know what I mean?

Ziegler: Sure. That's right.

President: Like the, that --

Ziegler: [Clears throat]

President: -- statement from the Muskie 'n' others to the effect, well, uh, this is too bad, like McGovern said, because this hurt their cause. Now, come now: does he mean that if had, if it helped their cause, it woulda been all right? See that's --.

Ziegler: They don't address themselves to the violence.

President: No, no, sir! Just because it hurt their cause, and I think we gotta say that they refuse, I think they've gotta be hit hard. Th-th-that violence is wrong, period, whether it hurts or helps your cause. You can't say, "Well, it hurt their cause, 'n' therefore don't be violent." That if it helped your cause, you'd be violent. They really oughta keep on the offensive a few days.

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Transcript #2: Part of a conversation among President Nixon, H. R. Haldeman, and Ronald L. Ziegler in the Oval Office between 2:30 pm and 3:02 pm on May 4, 1971.

Conversation No. 490-22#2

Haldeman: The Attorney General requests permission to defer his three-thirty meeting. He's under --

President: Assault.

Haldeman: -- assault over there. And, well --

President: [Unintelligible].

Haldeman: -- and he just thinks he ought to stay over there in case he has to make some fast decisions.

President: Also it may look as if, if he's here, as though we're planning a war.

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Transcript #3: Part of a conversation among President Nixon, H. R. Haldeman, and Ronald L. Ziegler in the Oval Office between 2:30 pm and 3:02 pm on May 4, 1971.

Conversation No. 490-22#3

President: Any reports on the demonstrations today?

Haldeman: The, uh --

President: Not many of 'em left.

Haldeman: -- demonstrators --

President: You never hear any more.

Haldeman: -- complied with the traffic regulations, so they haven't arrested 'em.

President: Well --

Haldeman: Never --.

President: -- did they?

Haldeman: Yeah, there been four arrests, to the, uh, well, they've arrested six hundred and eighty-five today [unintelligible].

Ziegler: Who were disruptive.

Haldeman: Who were disruptive, but they, the group that gathered in Franklin Square and

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then went to the Justice Department, they were gonna get for parade violations, but they --

President: Walked on the streets.

Haldeman: -- they're walking on the sidewalks four abreast in an orderly manner and they're assembling peacefully at Tenth Street at the Department of Justice right now. The MPD is there in large numbers. They estimate four thousand of them on the route of the march and/or on the sidewalks at Justice. They've requested permission to proceed on to the Reflecting Pool area with a contingent of the Southern Christian Leadership. Justice has refused to grant --

President: That's all right.

Haldeman: -- the permit.

President: 'Cause [unintelligible].

Haldeman: Demonstrators will be permitted to remain on the sidewalks at Justice as long as the crowd remains peaceful.

President: Alright.

Haldeman: They found a live bomb under the Taft Street Bridge which was deactivated by the military bomb squad.

President: [Unintelligible] out?

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Haldeman: I don't know. [Unintelligible] will be demonstrating.

President: Both of 'em?

Haldeman: Both of 'em. They put 'em on. Yeah.

President: Are they?

Haldeman: Yes, sir.

President: That's good, Ron. Why the hell didn't they let it blow up?

Haldeman: That's, that's the thing. You just --

President: The thing that really pisses me off is that we always stop with [unintelligible].

Ziegler: Yeah. That's right. Make a big thing --

President: [Unintelligible].

Ziegler: -- and go with the guy didn't get down there on time.

Haldeman: [Unintelligible] run sirens and everything --

Ziegler: Yeah.

Haldeman: -- at the bridge and stir up all the television crews, and let the goddamn bridge go up in smoke.

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Ziegler: That's right. The deactivator shouldn't have gotten there.

Haldeman: It'd be worth the price of the bridge.

Ziegler: [Unintelligible] bridge?

Haldeman: Taft Street, I don't, I don't know where --

President: Ron says the fellas in the press room are tryin' to get after the civil libertarians about the mass arrests with [unintelligible].

Haldeman: Really?

Ziegler: A few of 'em are. Yeah.

President: Sure they are, Bob. I tell ya they --

Haldeman: I know.

President: -- they cannot let --

Ziegler: [Unintelligible].

President: -- they cannot take this --

Unknown: [Unintelligible].

President: He is, he is, Mc-, the McGovern, Muskie --.

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Haldeman: The answer to that would just be to let your mouth fall open and look at the guy and say, "Are you serious?"

President: That's right. I just feel, well, I'd say, "For Christ's sakes, what the hell are you talkin' about?"

Haldeman: I mean this kind of --

President: He says, uh, "It's our --"

Haldeman: Try disbelief.

President: But you take a hard line when I'm [unintelligible].

Ziegler: I did.

President: My line was hard and tough, and I know we're fair. We're not, everybody's gonna get a fair trail, but they're not gonna disrupt this Government.

Ziegler: 'S what, the line I took.

President: And, uh, I'm glad they arrested them. I think we, uh --.

Ziegler: You said that, uh, you thought [unintelligible] perfectly. Hadn't been.

President: Good.

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Haldeman: It's gonna be an operation. It's good for the police to do something like this 'n' get some credit for it.

President: Damn right. Damn right.

Haldeman: I mean for police all over the country, not just --

President: Well, oh, I know --

Haldeman: -- these here.

President: -- I know, I know.

Ziegler: They still handle 'em.

President: Stand up for your local police. Get a few signs out here.

Haldeman: Birchers'll {unintelligible}.

President: You're goddamn right. [Unintelligible]. I think the Birchers're right on that score. I really am. I agree.

Haldeman: Support your local police.

President: Support your local police 'n' stand up for Alabama.

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Haldeman: [Laughs] George Wallace would have loved it up here yesterday. He'd o' ran over everybody with a car. And a guy couldn't find a place to park his bicycle.
[Laughs]

Ziegler: [Clears throat] You know, I think that --.

President: We got a, we got a break. This is gonna make the, all the demonstrations look bad, Ron. You know they always [unintelligible].

Ziegler: Sure.

President: That's all right.

Ziegler: [Unintelligible].

President: You know, of course, as I tell when [unintelligible] were here, they're just like this when we were at San Jose. Everything would have come out fine if they, that, had, hadn't had that bad production on that last television thing. In other words, we were in, we were in fine shape.

Ziegler: The, uh, ya know, in California and so forth, [clears throat] the conversation ya get is, "Gee, those demonstrators, isn't that awful back there," ya know. They do lump 'em together.

President: Yeah.

Ziegler: Here, ya know, the-, every one is just too --

Haldeman: Yeah, but that's --

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Ziegler: -- cultural --

Haldeman: -- [unintelligible] natural distinction --.

Ziegler: -- and kind.

President: Here, everybody is separated. Well, now, look --.

Haldeman: Everybody thinks there's been a demonstration going on for two weeks, which there has been.

Ziegler: [Unintelligible].

Haldeman: And it involved the same bunch of people, and they've gradually escalated into a worse and worse mess.

Ziegler: Uh --.

President: Sure, yeah. Well, when I, when I was on the phone with somebody out there in the office --

Haldeman: I don't mean even here in this --.

President: -- somebody had said they'd sent in a grievance. You can feel terrible there. No, not bad! You know, just kinda tell 'em that, uh, that's all right. Let them think it's uh, right now, all this crap --.

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Haldeman: I think we look awfully good in not letting somethin' like that bring the Government to, to its knees. I think --

Ziegler: That's absolutely frightening --

Haldeman: -- bring it to its knees --

Ziegler: -- that's what --.

Haldeman: -- [unintelligible] make a big thing out of it, ya know --

Ziegler: [Clears throat]

Haldeman: -- the Government's, this fitful giant --.

President: Therefore, the war can't go on because they've stopped the war and they've stopped the Government. Hell with 'em [unintelligible] just, you know, a few more --

Ziegler: Same thing, it's the same thing i-in terms of how people react as they would if, ya know, the Vietnam thing would end in a, i-in, in a way --

President: Yeah.

Ziegler: -- that it shouldn't have.

President: Yeah.

Ziegler: Same thing, uh, the same reaction to this. If, if demonstrators could come in and

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intimidate or disrupt Government or stop Government [unintelligible] people would have the same reaction, "My God," ya know, "the, the whole thing's falling apart; what's, what's happening?"

Haldeman: It's funny --

Ziegler: It's the same kind of --.

Haldeman: -- seeing demonstrators like Rennie Davis said the mistake he made was underestimating the Government's commitment to prohibit us from doing this. He didn't think, apparently, they didn't think we'd go as far as we went.

Ziegler: [Clears throat] Rennie Davis misjudged the --.

Haldeman: The busting on Sunday morning was what did it.

President: That's right.

Haldeman: They, they were all out Sunday.

President: Well, they [unintelligible] --.

Ziegler: They also misjudged the reaction of the people working in Government.

Haldeman: Yeah, [unintelligible] --

Ziegler: They thought that --

Haldeman: -- Government [unintelligible].

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Ziegler: -- those people would be sympathetic toward it and --

President: [Unintelligible].

Ziegler: -- therefore would not --.

President: [Unintelligible] the *Washington Post* misled them on that. They printed this silly-ass poll a week ago Sunday --

Haldeman: That's right. It said --

President: -- where --

Haldeman: [Unintelligible].

President: -- they said sixty-seven percent of all Washingtonians interviewed approved demonstrations against the war.

Ziegler: Yeah.

President: See, that misled these activists --

Ziegler: Probably [unintelligible].

President: -- I guess. Well, actually that was a dishonest poll. We know.

Haldeman: Oh, sure, 'cause it, there's no way you can get, get that, that high a --.

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President: Not even in Washington.

Haldeman: And the Governm-, they think, those, they think the Government employees are all against the war because they go over to HEW and find a couple o' hundred

President: That's right.

Haldeman: -- of 'em over there that are radicals.

President: That's right. That's right.

Haldeman: And, uh --.

President: But they don't realize that most Government employees are cowards to begin with.

Haldeman: Damn right.

President: [Unintelligible] are thinkin' of their jobs. Well, hell, that's what's it's about, and we could fire their ass, uh, quick. Believe me, any of these Government employees don't show because of this, their ass is out of the Government.

Haldeman: The other way, we had more people at work yesterday than we normally have on a Monday. More people came, [laughs] apparently annual leave's got people who didn't take it [unintelligible].

Ziegler: I think there's an element of pride too. Ya know, ya think of the guys in the various departments, people --

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President: [Unintelligible].

Ziegler: -- who, who whatever they do --

President: -- some little turds [unintelligible] --.

Ziegler: -- worrying about fisheries and so forth. In that particular surrounding, they --

President: Yeah.

Ziegler: -- didn't want to be the guy who --

President: Yeah.

Ziegler: -- who, who --

Haldeman: Finked out.

Ziegler: -- who finked out and couldn't come.

President: I think your right, sure.

Haldeman: I'm sure that's true.

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President: The afternoon briefing that I think you should say that I, the President [unintelligible] legitimately wish to commend Government workers for refusing to be intimidated by this small, uh, militant minority, and, uh, they, uh, they, uh, the fact they were on their jobs, uh, in even greater numbers than usual is a high tribute to the, to the, the, to their, uh, dedication to, to duty, uh, as, uh, whatever their, whatever their political views, whatever their views on the war and so forth, they believe in the peaceful process. It showed their, their commitment to peace 'n', all right, that's, uh, praise [unintelligible] however [unintelligible] peace. Get this TV lib crowd back on their backs. We got 'em. They're gonna, they're worryin' [unintelligible].

Haldeman: I was watching an interview with --

Ziegler: This [unintelligible].

Haldeman: -- one, one of their, one of their leaders was being interviewed on television, and, and, uh, they said, "What, uh, what are you gonna do now?" And he said, "Well," that, "we've failed on this demonstration. We haven't, the whole thing's failed. And, uh, so now we're gonna have to go underground. We won't leave Washington; we'll be staying here, but we'll, we'll operate underground and, and, uh, undermine the Government that way." Now, that may have looked real good too. [Laughs]

President: Yeah. [Unintelligible] the bomb.

Haldeman: I wouldn't be surprised. I would, I would think the frustration level would be building up. They, they were also trying to get all, get people incited. The guy was saying, he says, "It's a terrible thing. They, they, they've got those people in

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the stockade out at Kennedy Stadium and they're gassing 'em. They gas 'em every hour." And, you know, trying to make it sound like the Jews in Auschwitz, or something. [Laughs]

President: Most of them are. Anyway, [unintelligible], uh, how many, most of 'em are out of there now, are out of the [unintelligible].

Ziegler: Yes, all but fifteen hundred.

Haldeman: Fifteen hundred are still in, and they, they refuse to --

Ziegler: To leave.

Haldeman: -- to leave.

President: Why don't they wanna leave?

Haldeman: I dunno. They won't comply with whatever the process that they have to go through in order to get out. They won't do it.

Ziegler: If they start puttin' the food and water in there a little, and I think we, they'll be rollin' out of there pretty soon.

Haldeman: Just move 'em back outside and let 'em get cold again tonight.

President: Yeah, I know what I'd do: "Haven't got room for you inside, boys." Leave 'em out, good. Hmm. [Unintelligible] want 'em on our hands, and they're just trying to make [unintelligible].

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Haldeman: [Unintelligible] do somethin' [unintelligible] or someplace.

Ziegler: I don't think they'll probably do that Capitol thing, will they,

Haldeman: Well, I don't know. They're doing this Justice thing today.

Ziegler: I'd sure like to have them do that Capitol thing to see how that --

Haldeman: I would, too.

Ziegler: -- how those people up there deal with it

Haldeman: I would love to have [unintelligible].

Ziegler: -- because Senator Scott this morning, although he did handle Senator Muskie well --.

Haldeman: He didn't handle it very well.

President: Yeah.

Ziegler: He'll, I said Scott did handle Muskie --

Presidnet: Yeah, I know, but [unintelligible] --.

Ziegler: Well, but his immediate reaction this morning was, "Oh, they're not gonna come up there."

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President: Well --.

Ziegler: He said, "Jerry won't let 'em," ya know.

President: Yeah.

Ziegler: But, uh, I'd like to see 'em up there, see how they, they [unintelligible].

President: [Unintelligible] up there, and, but the ones to send out 'n' stop 'em are the ones who brought them here. Ah, prote-, [unintelligible] the peace people who are [unintelligible].

Haldeman: [Unintelligible].

President: They can control their own radicals. These are not our radicals. They're theirs.

Ziegler: If they go up there, that's a pre-, that might be a pretty good approach for, for some of our people to take on the floor.

President: Go out, fellas, you fellas, [unintelligible] Muskie and Hart.

Ziegler: Yeah, in other words, uh, if some of the --

Haldeman: Kennedy.

Ziegler: -- the Senators could stand up and say, "We'd like to --

President: Yeah.

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Ziegler: -- we'd like to delegate --

President: We call on those --.

Ziegler: -- [unintelligible] --

Haldeman: Your, your troops --

President: We call on those, we call on those --

Haldeman: -- are here now.

Ziegler: -- who know these, who know, uh, know, know the le- --."

President: -- those, you know these people, you've encouraged these people, you support their views -- that's --

Unknown: [Unintelligible].

President: -- the way to do it -- you support their views. You know them. You work with them. Now, its your responsibility to your colleagues, it's your responsibility to your colleagues to go out and, uh, and reach them. You're the ones, just say that you know them; you support their views; you supported their demonstration. Now, it's your responsibility to go out and reason with them. Say it that simply. [Unintelligible] Jesus Christ, though, the way they [unintelligible] us. As I said, I remember the sixty-two [unintelligible].

Haldeman: Umm.

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President: And, and I told Ron, "Don't ever admit that they've changed our minds." They, they now can just say, "Those who support, supported this," and they, and let, let them deny it. Hell, they'll deny it now. They'll say, "Oh, I, not me. I didn't mean it." [Unintelligible] sons-o'-bitches. They are, they must be dyin'. [Unintelligible] should have this, see. They really wouldn't, they wanted the Government to be brought to a halt, didn't they?

Ziegler: Some did.

Haldeman: Um-hum.

President: Sure. I'm telling you, the ones that --.

Ziegler: [Unintelligible].

President: Sure, well, stop the war.

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Conv. No. 490-22#4 (cont.)

Transcript #4: Part of a conversation among President Nixon, H. R. Haldeman, and Ronald L. Ziegler in the Oval Office between 2:30 pm and 3:02 pm on May 4, 1971.

Conversation No. 490-22#4

Haldeman: There goes the helicopters to Justice.

Unknown: [Unintelligible].

Haldeman: No, we don't gas 'em from the air here, apparently. That's, Reagan's the one who does that.

Ziegler: I guess Clark MacGregor got a little gas in his car, didn't he?

Haldeman: He got a demonstrator on top of his car.

Ziegler: Oh, really?

Haldeman: Um-hum. One demonstrator jumped on the hood and climbed right up on the top of the car and was jumping on the top of the car. Clark saw that the TV camera -- there was a reel camera over there -- so Clark just opened his newspaper and [laughs] sat [unintelligible] [laughs].

Ziegler: The driver, the guy was on top, was it in traffic?

Haldeman: Yeah. The driver tried to start fast, and he, and he couldn't because the car right in front of him, he, he pulled out. The guy fell off the car.

Ziegler: Did he?

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Conv. No. 490-22#4 (cont.)

Haldeman: Yeah.

Ziegler: Because that's the time you just tromp the gas --

Haldeman: That's what he wanted to do.

Ziegler: -- [unintelligible] [laughs] into the crowd.

Haldeman: [Unintelligible]. He said that's what he wanted to do. He was, but he couldn't. There was a car in front of him; he couldn't. [Unintelligible].

Ziegler: These drivers are funny. One of 'em told me the other night --

Haldeman: The drivers [unintelligible].

Ziegler: -- he said, ya know, he said, one of the fellas --.

President: Do they?

Ziegler: Oh, jeez, uh.

Haldeman: They're all sergeants in the Army.

Ziegler: Oh, they des- --.

President: Oh, are they?

Haldeman: Yeah.

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Conv. No. 490-22#4 (cont.)

Ziegler: They detest 'em. One of the fellas told me --

President: Good.

Ziegler: -- that a hippie-type guy came up to him, and he was at a stoplight asking for directions to Georgetown. And he was just laughing because he had sent him, you know, five miles [laughs] in the wrong direction, the wrong way. [Laughs]

President: You know, I think they did underestimate the, uh, they thought the Government employees would turn out and help them, just like they think, uh --

Haldeman: Well, they believe that the society is as sick as they are and that they, as they think it is. They don't understand that most --

President: [Unintelligible] people in this country [unintelligible].

Haldeman: -- [unintelligible] they believe all this crap they see on television.

President: [Unintelligible]. And also, that they read the *Washington Post*.

Haldeman: Yeah.

President: The *Washington Post* prints the polls --

Haldeman: Yeah.

President: -- that most people support them. The *Washington Post* gives you the impression

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Conv. No. 490-22#4 (cont.)

nobody supports the President and all that sort of thing. Now, God damn it, they find out it isn't true. You know that --

Haldeman: The rea- --.

President: -- that's what irritates you g-, friends out in the press room. They just can't stand it, you know. They, they think they run the country and they don't anymore. Not even now. They, they, it's tougher now than it was, but on any great issue, and once we get the war over, we'll beat their livin' bejesus out of those people out there 'cause they're on the wrong side.

Ziegler: They're on the wrong side.

President: [Unintelligible] the wave of the future is not the long hair. And it isn't all this vice and it isn't all this decadent stuff. Sure --

Unknown: [Unintelligible].

President: -- I don't mean the wave of the future doesn't include a lot of immorality -- that's always been with us -- but these people glorifying it; that's the point. That's where they're wrong. They are not gonna win that way. This country isn't gonna go that way, I don't think.

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Transcript #5: Part of a conversation among President Nixon, H. R. Haldeman, and Ronald L. Ziegler in the Oval Office between 2:30 pm and 3:02 pm on May 4, 1971.

Conversation No. 490-22#5

President: Are they using LSC [unintelligible]?

Ziegler: Well, they were announcing down there, "Don't use the red acid."

President: Don't use the red -- is that LSD?

Ziegler: No, uh, uh --.

Haldeman: LS - acid is LSD, but, but they had some that was bad. It had strychnine in it.

Ziegler: The LSD?

Haldeman: Yeah.