



White House Tapes of the Nixon Administration, 1971-1973
Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, NARA Online Public Access Catalog Identifier: 597542

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[Conversation No. 508-001](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a letter to an unknown person

President's press conference
-Ronald L. Ziegler
-John A. Scali
-President's previous experiences with the press

[Conversation No. 508-002](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a letter to an unknown shortstop

Ronald L. Ziegler

Unknown shortstop's batting problems
-President's political career



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[Conversation No. 508-020](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with an unknown man

[Previous tapes archival review indicated this was a conversation. Upon review of the digital copy, archivists did not discern conversation. For the sake of clarity and continuity, this conversation designation will not change.]

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 9:20 am

[Conversation No. 508-003](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a memorandum to John D. Ehrlichman

- Ehrlichman
- Schedule
 - Preparation of analysis of Black Caucus' legislative agenda
 - Cost
 - Timing

[Conversation No. 508-004](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office



The President dictated a memorandum to Egil ("Bud") Krogh, Jr.

Drug abuse studies

- Heroin addicts who started on marijuana
- Federal agencies as sources of information
- Dr. Bertram S. Brown, director, National Institute of Mental Health

[Conversation No. 508-005](#)

Date: June 2, 1971

Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am

Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a memorandum to John D. Ehrlichman

Drug abuse studies

- Department of Health, Education, and Welfare [HEW]
- Secretary of Health from Arizona
 - Physicians
 - Over-prescription of drugs
 - Study
- Instructions for Krogh
 - HEW

[Conversation No. 508-006](#)

Date: June 2, 1971

Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am

Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a memorandum to John D. Ehrlichman and Egil ("Bud") Krogh, Jr.



Drug use

- Recommendations for increasing criminal penalties
- Pushers who are addicts

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/15/2019. Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]

[508-006-w001]

[Duration: 4s]

[*Sneeze*]

Drug use

- Courts possible reaction
- Use of death penalty
- Applicability of federal statutes

[Conversation No. 508-007](#)

Date: June 2, 1971

Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am

Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a memorandum to John D. Ehrlichman

Urban unemployment

- Pierre Rinfret's predictions
- Possible political problems
- Ehrlichman's forthcoming meeting with George P. Shultz
- Ehrlichman's recommendations



[Conversation No. 508-008](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a memorandum to General Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

Memorial to Confederate dead in the US Civil War
-Memorial to General Robert E. Lee and General Ulysses S. Grant at West Point
-Implications for the South

[Conversation No. 508-009](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a note to Melvin R. Laird

Attachment to formal letter
-Commendation for unknown person

The President dictated a letter to Laird

US military
-Ceremonial duties
-President's view

[This conversation continues as Conversation No. 508-11]



[Conversation No. 508-010](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

Request for recording tapes

President's schedule
-Alexander P. Butterfield

Bull left at an unknown time before 9:20 am

[Conversation No. 508-011](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: Unknown between 8:55 am and 9:20 am
Location: Oval Office

The President dictated a letter to Melvin R. Laird
[This is a continuation of Conversation No. 508-9]

US military
-Ceremonial duties
-President's view
-Military District of Washington
-President's visits to foreign nations

[Conversation No. 508-012](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: 9:20 am - 9:40 am
Location: Oval Office



The President met with Alexander P. Butterfield and Rose Mary Woods

President's dictation equipment

- Malfunction
- Peter G. Peterson
- Malfunction
- Manolo Sanchez

Woods left at an unknown time before 9:40 am

The President's schedule

- 80th Congressional Club reception June 3
 - Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. Albert
- Meeting with Anastasio Somoza Debayle
 - Tone
 - Henry A. Kissinger
 - Major General James D. ("Don") Hughes
 - Maurice H. Stans
 - Meeting protocol
 - Mrs. Somoza
 - Marion A. Smoak
 - William R. Codus
- 80th Congressional Club reception June 3
 - Physical arrangements
 - Number of attendees
 - Gifts for attendees
 - Ash trays, cocktail glasses, cuff links

The President's dictation equipment

- Woods

Forthcoming Congressional Club reception

- Gifts

The President's schedule

- Congressional briefing, June 8, 1971
 - International economic policy
 - Peterson
 - Timing



- Location
- Somoza
- Kissinger
- H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman

Butterfield left at 9:40 am

[Conversation No. 508-013](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: 9:45 am - 12:04 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman

Explorer Scouts

Anastasio Somoza Debayle's visit

- Department of State
- Briefing book
- Maurice H. Stans, Henry A. Kissinger
- Arrangements

State Department's bureaucracy

Medal of Freedom

United States civil service

- Sick leave, annual leave
- Haldeman and the President's experiences

[*Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/15/2019. Segment cleared for release.*]



[Personal Returnable]
[508-013-w013]
[Duration: 1m 10s]

- Tricia Nixon Cox's wedding
 - Weather
 - East Room
 - Magazine cover for *Look*
 - The President's appreciation for cover
 - Ladies Home Journal* photo vs *Look* photo
 - H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman's opinion
 - Photo with dogs

Rose Mary Woods entered at an unknown time after 9:45 am

- The President's dictation
 - Peter G. Peterson
 - Malfunctioning equipment

Woods left at an unknown time before 10:13 am

- White House correspondence unit
 - Noble Melencamp
 - Dianne Humes, Raymond K. Price, Jr.

- President's schedule
 - Robert H. Finch
 - Trip

- White House correspondence
 - Price
 - Melencamp
 - William J. Hopkins role
 - Commitment of resources and volume of correspondence

Kissinger entered at 10:13 am



Vietnam War

- Military operations
 - Snoul
- Army of the Republic of Vietnam [ARVN] withdrawal
- North Vietnamese attack
- Casualties
- Press
 - General Creighton W. Abrams, Jr.
 - Melvin R. Laird
 - Associated Press reporter
 - John A. Scali
 - White House response

[Previous National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2012-002. Segment declassified on 03/19/2015. Archivist: DR]

[National Security]

[508-013-w002]

[Duration: 21s]

Message from unknown Pakistani

- Yet to be received
- Comes via courier
- Code

US-North Vietnamese negotiations

- Kissinger's cable to Ellsworth F. Bunker
- Timing
- Status
- South Vietnamese elections

Kissinger's foreign trips

- Visit with British



-Korea

[Previous National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2012-002. Segment declassified on 03/19/2015. Archivist: DR]

[National Security]

[508-013-w014]

[Duration: 2m 3s]

Henry A. Kissinger's foreign trips

- Islamabad, Pakistan
 - Trip to mountains as cover
 - People's Republic of China [PRC]
 - Airplanes
 - US ambassador to Pakistan
 - Agha Muhammad Yahya Khan
 - Summer house in the mountains
 - Military airfield
 - Malaya
 - Duration of flight
 - Pakistani ambassador to US
 - Discretion
 - The President's efforts to keep India from attacking Pakistan
 - Stopped Department of State [DoS] from cutting aid
 - US Ambassador to Pakistan
 - Previous career in Panama
 - Hatred of Department of State [DoS]

US ambassadors

- Support for the President
 - John S. Farland
 - [David] Kenneth Rush
 - Berlin deadlock
- Bunker



- Dr. David K. E. Bruce
- Farland

Vietnam

- Press coverage of President
 - Rowland Evans and Robert D. Novak
- Zbigniew Brzezinski's suggestion
- Timing of negotiation
 - Democratic National Convention
 - Lyndon B. Johnson
- North Vietnam bombing halt
 - Prisoners of War [POWs]
- Democrats

President's foreign policy

- Successful Vietnam War negotiations
- Summit meetings
- South Vietnam
 - End to American involvement
 - Effect
 - State Department Activities
 - Press
 - Academia
 - Council on Foreign Relations
 - John J. McCloy
 - North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO]
- US relations with the People's Republic of China [PRC]
- US-Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] relations
- US-North Vietnamese negotiations
 - General Alexander M. Haig, Jr.'s opinion

[Previous National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2012-002. Segment declassified on 03/19/2015. Archivist: DR]

[National Security]

[508-013-w015]

[Duration: 58s]



President's foreign policy

- US relations with People's Republic of China [PRC]
- US-Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] relations
 - India-Pakistan War
 - Tashkent negotiations
- US-People's Republic of China [PRC] relations
 - Aspirations of People's Republic of China [PRC]
 - President's assessment

President's foreign policy

- Negotiations with North Vietnam
- Bombing

Vietnam

- Morale in North Vietnam
 - Supplies
 - Lam Son operation
 - Medical Problems
 - World War I
- US relations with USSR and PRC
- Joseph C. Kraft
 - Commentary on President's press conference
- Public opinion
- Hanoi propaganda efforts
 - President
- Johnson
 - Peace Initiatives
- President's peace initiative
 - Quaker background
 - Patrick J. Buchanan
 - President's World War II duty
 - President's family's reaction

President's foreign policy

- Saturday Review of Literature*



- Editorial praising President's foreign policy
- Norman Cousins
- Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT] announcement
 - Public opinion
- US relations with USSR, PRC
- Necessity of foreign policy successes
 - Trip to PRC
 - Timing
 - Vietnam
- Us-USSR relations
 - SALT
- President's possible trip to PRC
- Kissinger's forthcoming meeting with Anatoliy F. Dobrynin

Kissinger's health and age

The President left at an unknown time after 10:13 am

- US foreign policy
 - President's role
 - SALT

US relations with PRC

Kissinger left at 10:32 am

The President entered at an unknown time after 10:32 am

Kissinger's foreign trips

Stephen B. Bull entered at an unknown time after 10:32 am

- Briefing book
 - Oval Office

Bull left at an unknown time before 10:55 am

- President's schedule
 - Possible PRC trip



Bull entered at an unknown time after 10:32 am

Briefing book

- The Residence
- Manolo Sanchez

Bull left at an unknown time before 10:55 am

President's previous press conference

- President's schedule
 - Commentator's conclusions
 - South Vietnam's forthcoming election
 - General Nguyen Van Thieu

President's schedule

- Dinner for Somoza
- Willy Brandt's forthcoming US visit

President's previous press conference

- Buchanan
- Herbert G. Klein, Ronald L. Ziegler, Scali, and Buchanan
- Handling of press
 - New York Times, Washington Post*
- May Day demonstrators
- Basic foreign policy issues
 - Drugs
 - Demonstrations
 - SALT
 - PRC
 - Middle East
 - International Labor Organization [ILO]
 - Kissinger
 - President's conversations with George Meany
 - William P. Rogers
- Novak's comment
- Politics
 - Edmund S. Muskie
 - Edward M. ("Ted") Kennedy
 - Paul N. ("Pete") McCloskey, Jr.



- May Day demonstrators
 - John D. Ehrlichman's view
 - Walter E. Washington
 - Ehrlichman's reaction
 - Scali

May Day demonstrations

- Press
- Illegal arrest issue
- Processing of people arrested
- President's previous press conference
 - George P. Shultz's opinion

President's public image

President's previous press conference

- Types of questions
- Ziegler
- Clark R. Mollenhoff
- Questions on domestic affairs
 - Busing
 - Housing
 - Race relations
- Buchanan's preparation
- Foreign policy versus domestic policy
- William H. Carruthers
 - Mark I. Goode
- Rostrum
 - Presidential Seal
 - Camera angles

Possible telephone poll

- Timing
- Questions
 - China
 - Approval
 - Vice President approval
 - Trial heats
 - Press conference



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- SALT
- May Day demonstrations
 - President's support of police
 - Wording
- Legalization of marijuana

President's previous press conference

- Domestic issues
 - Revenue sharing
 - Government reorganization
 - Welfare reform
- Drugs
- May Day demonstrators
 - Reporter's questions
 - White House response
 - Buchanan
 - Letter writing
 - Jerald F. ("Jerry") terHorst

President's forthcoming press conference

- Domestic issues
- Trip to Arkansas
- Timing
- Announcement
- Physical arrangements
- Press coverage
 - Ziegler
- Story on housing
 - Views of Shultz and John N. Mitchell

Press coverage of administration

- SALT
- President's foreign policy
 - PRC
 - Kissinger
- May Day demonstrators

Vietnam

- Vietnam veterans' organizations



- Unknown man
- John F. Kerry
- Comments on Vietnam war crimes

Alexander P. Butterfield entered at an unknown time after 10:32 am

Haig's schedule

Butterfield left at an unknown time before 10:55 am

Vietnam

- Vietnam veterans
- Veterans of Foreign Wars [VFW]
- Unknown man's comments

Butterfield entered at an unknown time after 10:32 am

Haig's schedule

- Son

Kissinger's schedule

Butterfield left at an unknown time before 10:55 am

Vietnam

- Unknown man's comments
- Comments regarding May Day demonstrations
 - Charles W. Colson's role
 - Television network coverage
 - National Broadcasting Company [NBC]
 - American Broadcasting Company [ABC]
 - Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS]
- Herbert R. ("Chief") Rainwater's request for television time
- Unnamed veteran's forthcoming actions
 - Kerry
 - Melville Stephens

Kissinger entered at 10:55 am



General John W. Donaldson

- Allegation of Vietnam war crimes
 - Laird
 - Stanley R. Resor
 - Timing and location of actions
 - General William C. Westmoreland
 - Meeting with Kissinger
 - Time* magazine story
- Possible squelching of criminal charges
 - Department of the Army
 - Westmoreland
 - Resor
 - Role of Secretary of Defense

President's previous press conference

- May Day demonstrators
 - Ehrlichman
 - President's conversation with Julie Nixon Eisenhower
- Law and order
- National economy
- Law and order
 - Possible speech by President
 - William L. Safire

Colgate University

- Visit by Rogers
- College football
 - Andy Kirk
 - Game against Duke University
 - Walt Slade
- University president
- Actions of valedictorian
- Kissinger's actions at Johns Hopkins University
- Rogers' reaction
- Rogers' comments regarding commencement
 - West Point

West Point

- Commencement exercises



-Television coverage

Rogers

-Comments regarding young people

US relations with PRC

-President's previous press conference

-United Nations [UN]

-Chiang Kai-shek

-Possible announcement

-Rogers' role

-Forthcoming meeting with General Nguyen Van Thieu

President's previous press conference

-Impression on American people

-Questions on foreign policy

-President's Vietnam policies

President's Vietnam policies

-Kraft's comments

-President's forthcoming news conference

-Planted questions on Vietnam

President's previous press conference

-Question on morality of Vietnam bombing

-President's background

-Garnett D. ("Jack") Horner

-Horner's question

-Repatriation of POWs

-Korean War

-Vietnam War

-Question of morality of bombing

-President's visits to Germany

-Essen, Berlin, and Dresden

-Morality of war

-Adolf Hitler's goals

-US bombing Vietnam

-Vietnamese Communists

-Treatment of Catholics after 1954



- Bishop of Da Nang
- Howard K. Smith

US war efforts

- Strategic concepts

US bombing of North Vietnam

- US relations with USSR and PRC
- Future strategy
 - Possible reaction by American people

Morality of war

- US Civil War
 - General William T. Sherman
 - March to the sea
 - Abraham Lincoln
 - Cost of disunion
- US bombing targets
 - Laos
- North Vietnamese
 - Atrocities in 1954
 - Communist atrocities in South Vietnam
- Japanese killed at Hiroshima and Nagasaki
 - Harry S Truman
 - Dwight D. Eisenhower
 - Possible 1945 invasion of Japan
 - American casualties
- Hitler
- North Vietnamese
- May Day demonstrators
- Previous press conference
 - President's response

Vietnam

- Military action in Laos and Cambodia
 - Kissinger's conversation with Scali
 - Television networks' reporting
 - Casualty figures

President's accomplishments



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- Firings
- Permissiveness
- Welfare "loafers"
- Foreign policy
 - Bombing of Vietnam
 - SALT
 - Vietnam negotiations
 - President's record

Mood of nation

- Liberals

President's domestic program

- Ehrlichman
- President's philosophy
- Environment
- Food stamps
- Consumerism
- Revenue sharing
 - John V. Lindsay
 - Cuts in property taxes

Liberals

- Views regarding President
- Desire for power
- Ehrlichman

Poll

- National issues
- Haldeman's conversation with Thomas W. Benham
 - Environment
 - Concerns
 - Air and water
 - Consumerism
 - Effect of news media
 - Welfare
- Distribution
 - Domestic Council
 - Environment
 - Haldeman's possible consultation with Ehrlichman



-President's role

Ziegler entered at 11:24 am

PRC

- Study on UN membership
- Completion date
- Timing of decision
- Announcement

May Day arrests

- Ziegler's possible response
- Release of individuals

President's previous press conference

- Ziegler, Scali, Klein
- Washington press corps
- Questions
 - Foreign policy
 - International monetary policy
 - Revenue sharing
 - Manpower
 - Public service jobs

May Day demonstrators

- Ziegler's possible comments
- Previous press conference
 - President's answer
 - Legality of arrests
- Ziegler's possible comments
 - Release of demonstrators
 - Views of White House press corps
 - President's view
 - Kennedy
 - President's approval of police actions
 - Orderly government
 - Constitutionality
 - Liberals
- Press response



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- Ziegler's possible comments
- Public support for President

President's previous press conference

- President's foreign policy
- SALT
- PRC
- Telephone polls on Vietnam

Ziegler's possible comments

- Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction [MBFR]
 - Negotiations
 - NATO
 - USSR
 - Warsaw Pact countries
 - Timing
 - Rogers
- US relations with PRC
 - Timing and form
- President's travel plans
 - Midway Island
 - Possible meeting
- Vietnam
- Southeast Asia

May Day demonstrators

- Media's views
- Actions
 - President's views
- Unknown man's conversation with Ehrlichman
 - Civil Rights marches
 - Selma, Alabama

Washington press corps

- Smith
 - Son's experience in Vietnam
- Members of Congress
 - William B. Saxbe
 - Son's experience in Vietnam



- Sons' lack of experience in Vietnam
- [Dwight] David Eisenhower, II
 - Military service
- Fears
- President's previous press conference
 - Wire Service reporters
 - J. William Theis
 - Jack Dwyer [?]
 - [First name unknown] Gannett
 - Draftees to Vietnam
 - Behavior at Kissinger's press briefing
 - Sarah McClendon
 - Marianne H. Means
 - Ford Rowan
 - WTOP
 - Question on Vietnam
- terHorst
- Theis
- Peter Lisagor
- Herbert E. Kaplow
 - Philosophy
- Dan Rather
 - Motivation
 - POW families
 - Johnson's bombing
- President's responses
- Morality of war
 - North Vietnamese
 - World War II

Bombing of Germany in World War II

- Morality of war
 - President's Quaker background
- US Soldiers
 - Actions
 - Compared to American Indian Wars
- Morality
 - Hitler



Morality of war

- Bombing of Vietnam
- Aftermath of North Vietnamese Takeover
- Reports of Communist Atrocities
 - Deportation of Czechs
- World War II
 - Rowan's possible opinion
- Fascism versus Communism

President's previous press conference

- May Day demonstrators
- Domestic questions
 - Aluminum
 - Steel
 - ILO
 - Ziegler's previous briefing
 - Reporter's question
 - President's response
 - Meany
- Arrangements

Ziegler left at 11:48 am

Possible summit meeting with USSR

- MBFR
- Announcements
 - Rogers, Laird
 - SALT

Hedley W. Donovan's call to Kissinger, June 1

- Possible briefing by Kissinger
 - Time's* advertisers
 - James R. Shepley
- Possible briefing by Kissinger
 - Peter M. Flanigan's possible actions
 - Shultz's experience
 - Purpose
- Possible briefing by Kissinger
 - Michael Coles



- Cousins
- Purpose

Kissinger's possible meeting with *New York Times* editorial board

- Time* magazine
- John W. Gardner
- Kissinger's schedule
- Somoza dinner

Ziegler entered at 11:52 am

Ziegler's forthcoming press briefing

- President's press conferences
- Politics
- Candidate's press conferences
- Politics

Ziegler left at 11:55 am

President's schedule

- Somoza dinner
- Haig
- Stans

[*Previous National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2014-026. Segment declassified on 04/26/2019. Archivist: DR*]

[National Security]

[508-013-w012]

[Duration: 14s]

President's schedule

- Anastasio Somoza Debayle dinner
- Money to [first name unknown] Torrientos
- Cuba
- Use of alternate channels



President's schedule

- Anastasio Somoza Debayle dinner
- Major General James D. ("Don") Hughes
- Salvador Allende Gossens

Kissinger left at 11:56 am

Haldeman's conversation with Benham

- Polling information
- Vietnam War and American people
 - President's standing as military strategist
- Goals of administration
 - Domestic Council
 - Vietnam War
 - Haldeman's forthcoming conversation with Ehrlichman
- President's personal characteristics
- Theme of administration
 - Law and order
- Vice President Spiro T. Agnew
- Vietnam War
- National economy
- Possible impact of foreign policy achievements
 - Kissinger
 - SALT
 - PRC
- President's previous press conference

Haldeman left at 12:04 pm

[Conversation No. 508-014](#)

Date: June 2, 1971

Time: Unknown between 12:04 pm and 12:12 pm



Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

President's schedule

- Certificate
- Thelma C. (Ryan) ("Pat") Nixon

Mrs. Nixon entered at 12:07 pm

- Medal of Freedom presentation
 - William J. Hopkins
 - Family
- Sequence of events
- Citation
 - Commander Craig S. Campbell

Bull left at an unknown time before 12:08 pm

Oval Office

- Furnishings

Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins, Gail Hopkins, and Mr. and Mrs. John N. Castell entered at 12:08 pm

Introductions

W. J. Hopkins' home town in Kansas

- President's home town
- High school

Bull, G. Hopkins, and Mr. and Mrs. Castell left at 12:10 pm

Hopkins' role with administration

Bull entered at an unknown time after 12:10 pm

Arrangements for ceremony



[An unknown man introduced the participants]

[Applause]

The President, Mrs. Nixon, and Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins left at 12:12 pm

[Conversation No. 508-015](#)

Date: June 2, 1971

Time: Unknown between 12:19 pm and 12:24 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

President's schedule

-Robert H. Finch

-H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman

Bull left at an unknown time before 12:24 pm

[Conversation No. 508-016](#)

Date: June 2, 1971

Time: Unknown between 12:19 pm and 12:24 pm

Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

Robert H. Finch's schedule

Bull left at an unknown time before 12:24 pm



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[Conversation No. 508-017](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: 12:24 pm - 12:26 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Alexander P. Butterfield

President's schedule
-Robert H. Finch

Butterfield left at an unknown time before 12:26 pm

[Conversation No. 508-018](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: 12:26 pm
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Stephen B. Bull

President's schedule
-Robert H. Finch
-H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman

Bull left at 12:26 pm

[Conversation No. 508-019](#)

Date: June 2, 1971
Time: 12:26 pm - 2:25 pm



Location: Oval Office

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

President’s schedule

- Robert H. Finch
- William J. Hopkins
- Medal of Freedom presentation

Finch entered at 12:27 pm

-Hopkins

Finch’s memo

- Finch’s forthcoming meetings
- Tom Reed [sp?]
- Harley [sp?] [Surname unknown]
- [Forename unknown] Monaghan [sp?]
- John N. Mitchell
- Leonard K. Firestone

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019. Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]

[508-019-w001]

[Duration: 9m 52s]

Robert H. Finch’s memorandum

- Leonard K. Firestone's suggestion
- Possible political roles
 - John N. Mitchell
 - Ronald W. Reagan
 - Honorary Chairman in California
 - National visibility
 - Nelson A. Rockefeller
 - Honorary Chairman in New York



- Robert H. Finch's opinion
- Organizing committees
- List
- Reaction against Leonard K. Firestone
 - Asa V. Call
 - Earl C. Adams
 - Jack Drown
 - The President's opinion
 - Acceptance by Ronald W. Reagan's people
 - Image
 - John Simon Fluor
 - Nixon Foundation
 - Lyndon B. Johnson
 - Funds
 - Jack Drown
 - Robert O. Reynolds
 - Fred Dutton and [first name unknown] Kovlens [sp?]
 - Loyalty
 - Obligation to Ronald W. Reagan
 - Russ Greene [sp?]
 - Harry Sherman

Political situation in California

- Pete Wilson
 - San Diego
- Caspar W. ("Cap") Weinberger running for San Francisco Mayor
 - Robert H. Finch's conversation with George P. Shultz
 - Thomas Reed's polls
 - Possibility of winning
 - Robert H. Finch's opinion
 - Joseph Alioto
 - Importance to 1972 campaign
 - Advocate for the President
 - Counties in Northern California
 - Contra Costa
 - Santa Clara
 - Marin
 - Alameda
 - San Mateo



- Alternatives
 - Robert H. Stewart, III
 - William M. Draper Sr.'s son William M. Draper, Jr.
 - Robert H. Finch's assessment
 - Paul N. ("Pete") McCloskey, Jr.
- Ambitions
 - Joseph Alioto
 - Criminal case
 - Thomas Reed's poll
 - Joseph Alioto
 - The President's opinion
 - Catholic voters
 - Catholic Church hierarchy
 - Blue-collar voters

- President's schedule
 - President's letter to John Cardinal McIntyre

- California poll results
 - Vietnam War
 - US economy
 - Forthcoming administration grants
 - Department of Transportation [DOT]

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019.
Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]
[508-019-w002]
[Duration: 28s]

- California poll results
 - Robert H. Finch's assessment of candidates standing
 - Edward M. ("Ted") Kennedy



- Edmund S. Muskie
- Trial heats
- Hubert H. Humphrey

California poll results

- President's program for California
 - President's conversation with George P. Shultz
 - Agricultural extension program
 - Meeting between Charles W. Colson and Jeb Stuart Magruder
 - Congressmen

[*Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019. Segment cleared for release.*]

[Personal Returnable]

[508-019-w003]

[Duration: 25m 12s]

Political situation in California

- Caspar W. ("Cap") Weinberger's possible campaign
 - Value to the President
- Field poll results
- Opinion Research Corporation [ORC] poll results
 - The President
 - vs. Hubert H. Humphrey
 - vs. George S. McGovern
 - vs Edmund S. Muskie
 - Paul N. ("Pete") McCloskey, Jr.
 - Alan Cranston
 - vs. Ronald W. Reagan
 - vs. Robert H. Finch
- Ronald W. Reagan's possible campaign for Senate
 - Robert H. Finch chances in primary
 - Age



- George A. Murphy
- Robert H. Finch's possible campaign for governor
 - vs. Houston I. Flournoy
 - vs. Edwin Reinecke
 - vs. Evelle J. Younger
- Edwin Reinecke
- Edmund S. Muskie
- Democratic poll results
 - Hubert H. Humphrey
 - George S. McGovern
 - Edmund S. Muskie
 - Edward M. ("Ted") Kennedy
 - The President's opinion of results
- Effect of national economic situation
- Ronald W. Reagan's ratings in polls
 - Stance nationally
- Poll results on President's performance
 - Foreign policy
- Unemployment
 - California
 - Blame
 - Ronald W. Reagan administration
 - Aerospace cutbacks
 - President's administration
- Forthcoming meeting
 - President, Robert H. Finch, John N. Mitchell, H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman
- Robert H. Finch's June 3, 1971 trip to California
 - Return week of June 7, 1971
- Proposed June 11, 1971 meeting
 - Leonard K. Firestone, John N. Mitchell, and Herbert W. Kalmbach
- Leonard K. Firestone's role
 - Chairman of organization committee
- California
 - Employment

1972 election

- Primaries
 - Robert H. Finch proposed weekly meetings
 - Bryce N. Harlow



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- H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman
- Jeb Stuart Magruder
- Robert H. Finch
- Charles W. Colson
- John N. Mitchell
 - Relations with Charles W. Colson
- Charles W. Colson
 - H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman's opinion
- Future political strategy meeting
 - John N. Mitchell, Charles W. Colson
 - The President's opinion
 - Robert H. Finch's opinion
 - Bryce N. Harlow's role
 - Robert H. Finch's assessment
 - Business community
- Robert A. Taft, Jr.
- Alaska primary
 - Walter J. Hickel
 - Prospects
- President's campaign travel
 - Primary elections
 - The President's campaign preferences
- Dwight D. Eisenhower's campaign work
 - Thomas H. Werdel's primary run against Earl Warren
- Election strategy for Republican primaries
 - Conservatives
 - Liberals
 - Need to be center or right
 - Focus on November and not primaries
 - Robert C. Hill's suggestion
 - New Hampshire
 - Wisconsin
 - Nebraska
 - Oregon
 - President's schedule
- Political strategy team
 - H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman
 - Bryce N. Harlow
 - Robert H. Finch



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- Harry S. Dent
 - Florida
- John N. Mitchell's team
 - Richard G. Kleindienst, Robert C. Mardian, and Jeb Stuart Magruder

John N. Mitchell's possible successor as Attorney General

- John D. Ehrlichman's comment to Godfrey Sperling, Jr.
 - Lack of desire to be Attorney General
- Robert H. Finch's comments to press
 - Richard G. Kleindienst
- John N. Mitchell's views
 - L[ouis] Patrick Gray, III

President's press conference June 1, 1971

Forthcoming press conference by President

- Equal time provisions
- Press
 - The President's opinion

President's campaign plans for 1972

- John N. Mitchell
- President's schedule
 - Ohio
 - New York
 - California
 - Florida
 - White House functions
 - Strategy sessions
 - Black-tie dinner

Forthcoming primary in Ohio

- Robert A. Taft, Jr.
- Ray C. Bliss's plan
 - William B. Saxbe
- John N. Mitchell

1972 primary strategy

- Stand-ins



- Florida
- California
- Nebraska
- Oregon
- New Hampshire
- Wisconsin
- President's opinion
- 1960 campaign
 - President's strategy in 1960
 - John F. Kennedy
- Preparation for general election
 - Indiana
 - Robert A. Taft, Jr.
 - Sentiments of constituents
 - Pennsylvania
 - Write-in
- 1960 campaign
- Local committees

Ronald L. Ziegler entered at an unknown time after 12:27 pm

- President's press conferences
 - Press's reaction
 - Political questions
 - Equal time
 - President's use
 - Opposition's response
 - George S. McGovern
 - Ziegler's response
 - Foreign, domestic policy issues
 - Public perception
 - President's June 1 press conference
 - Television coverage

Ziegler left at an unknown time before 1:10 pm



National issues

- Possible administration actions
- Vietnam
- Economy
- Drugs
- Law and order
 - Ronald W. Reagan

[Previous PRMPA Privacy (D) reviewed under PRMPA regulations 05/16/2019. Segment cleared for release.]

[Privacy]
[508-019-w014]
[Duration: 16s]

National issues

- Law and order
 - Ronald W. Reagan
 - The President's opinion of governing ability

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019. Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]
[508-019-w004]
[Duration: 4m 48s]

1972 campaign strategy group

- Robert J. Dole
 - The President's opinion
 - H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman's assessment
- H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman meeting with John N. Mitchell
 - Charles W. Colson



- The President's direction to Robert H. Finch
- Weekly meeting with John N. Mitchell
- The President's meeting
 - H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman, John N. Mitchell, Robert H. Finch, Bryce N. Harlow
 - Trustworthy
- Robert J. Dole
 - Trustworthy but bad judgment
- Harry S. Dent
 - The President's approval
 - Activities in the South
- Field men
 - Pennsylvania
 - New York
- John D. Ehrlichman
 - Robert H. Finch's recommendation
 - The President's opinion
 - Staff
 - H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman's opinion

President's schedule

- Meeting with Explorer Scouts
- White House tour

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019. Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]

[508-019-w005]

[Duration: 45s]

1972 campaign strategy group

- Meeting with John N. Mitchell
 - Richard G. Kleindienst
- Charles W. Colson



- The President's opinion
- H. R. ("Bob") Haldeman's opinion

Colson's activities

- Meeting with veterans group
- John F. Kerry
- Television networks
- Equal time

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019.
Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]

[508-019-w006]

[Duration: 53s]

Caspar W. ("Cap") Weinberger

- Possible campaign for Mayor of San Francisco
- The President's role
- Robert H. Finch's conversation with George P. Shultz
- Mayor to state-wide office

Caspar W. ("Cap") Weinberger

- Possible appointment to Supreme Court
- Possible Attorney General
- Role in Office of Management and Budget [OMB]
 - John D. Ehrlichman
 - [Forename unknown] Gifford

Peter M. Flanigan

- Possible role with administration



- Budget director
- Cabinet officers
- Weinberger
- Possible Supreme Court appointment
- Issues

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019. Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]
[508-019-w015]
[Duration: 20s]

- 1972 election strategy
 - Primaries
 - Meeting with Robert H. Finch, H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman, and John N. Mitchell
 - Forthcoming talk between H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman and John N. Mitchell

- President’s Tulsa, Oklahoma trip
 - President’s schedule
 - Thelma C. (Ryan) (“Pat”) Nixon’s schedule
 - Page Belcher
 - Congressmen
 - White House staff
 - Arrangements

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019. Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]
[508-019-w007]
[Duration: 31s]



Charles B. (“Bud”) Wilkinson

- Senate candidate
- Desire to run
- Best option
- The President’s opinion

Charles C. Edwards

- Performance
- Staffing
- Issues

President’s drug program

- Egil (“Bud”) Krogh, Jr.
- Polls
- Donald H. Rumsfeld
- Drugs in Vietnam
- Defense Department
- Finch’s appearance on Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS] “Morning News”
- State Department
- Defense Department
 - Ehrlichman
 - Veterans’ hospitals
 - Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Criminal penalties for dealers
 - Ehrlichman, Krogh
- Congress
- Dr. Bertram S. Brown of National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH]
- President’s forthcoming speech to American Medical Association [AMA]
 - Prescriptions
 - Abuse
- Drugs and military men
 - President’s and Haldeman’s observations
- Prescription abuse

President’s schedule

- Samuel L. Devine



-Clark MacGregor

President's accomplishments

- World events
- Vietnam War
- Republicans' response
 - Congressional votes
 - MacGregor
- Foreign policy
- Cabinet officers' activities
 - John B. Connally
- Polls
 - Lyndon B. Johnson
 - "Dignity"

California politics

- Party affiliation
- National economy

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019.
Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]

[508-019-w008]

[Duration: 2m 47s]

Republican support for the President

- Congressmen, governors
 - Need for Nixon loyalists
- Youth
 - Reason for lack of Republican support
 - Democratic parents
 - Labor
 - T. Harding Jones
 - College students
 - By region
 - Avoid Stanford, California and East Coast



- Focus on Midwest and South
 - Kansas
 - Nebraska
- By academic distinction
 - Eliminate top 25 percentile colleges
- Harvard
- Yale
- Princeton
- Maureen Finch's fiancé
 - Loyola University
 - Jewish
- 2 to 1 Republican voter registration at Loyola University

Vietnam War

- Peace initiative
- North Vietnam bombing
 - Prisoners of War [POWs]
 - Extent
- Popular Support
- "Pueblo" incident

US foreign relations

- Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR]
- People's Republic of China [PRC]
- Middle East
 - Henry A. Kissinger's prediction
 - Suez Canal
 - William P. Rogers

President's domestic program

- Ehrlichman
- Careers for women
- Health care
- Unemployment of liberal arts graduates
 - Revolutionary societies
- Higher education



- Number of students
- Subjects studied
- Federal funding
 - Shultz, Weinberger, Ehrlichman
 - National Science Foundation
 - Department of Health, Education, and Welfare [HEW]
 - Cutting funds
 - Shultz's view
 - University of Chicago
 - University of California
 - Nuclear energy
 - Southern California
 - Stanford University
 - National Science Foundation
 - Budget
 - President's conversation with Dr. Lee A. DuBridge
 - Subsidization of teachers' salaries
 - Teaching versus applied science
 - Proposed shift in funds
 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration [NASA]
- Educational lobby
- Bernie Schaefer [sp?]
 - Report on applied technology
 - Robert S. McNamara
- Supersonic Transport [SST]
 - Subsidies of Boeing
 - Position of the United States
 - Possible condominium with Japan
 - Concorde
 - Great Britain and France
- TU-144
 - USSR
- President's conversation with Rogers
 - Soviet plane
 - Boeing
 - McDonnell-Douglas
- Value
 - Length of flights
- Commercial advantage



- Freight
- American airline industry
- Possible subsidies by military
- SST
- Magruder
- Boeing
- Seattle unemployment
- Compared to Southern California
- Movie industry
 - Flanigan's efforts on tax reform
 - Television networks
 - Federal Communications Commission [FCC]
 - Employment

California

- Possible actions
- Weinberger
 - Meeting with Finch
- Government programs
 - Planning and impact
 - Agricultural extension
 - Irrigation districts
 - HEW
- Johnson's efforts on behalf of Texas
- Edward M. ("Ted") Kennedy's campaign theme in 1962
 - George Lodge
- Government programs
 - Press coverage
 - Model Cities program
 - John V. Tunney
 - Alan Cranston
 - Republican congressmen

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019.
Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]



[508-019-w011]
[Duration: 3m 42s]

- 1972 campaign political strategy
 - Ronald W. Reagan's role
 - Honorary Chairman
 - John N. Mitchell
 - Statement to Ronald W. Reagan
 - Leonard K. Firestone's plan
 - Split delegation and campaign
 - Potential telephone call from John N. Mitchell to Ronald W. Reagan
 - Ronald W. Reagan's role
 - Organizing committee
 - State-wide Republicans
 - Keep Charles W. Colson away
 - Primaries
 - Psychological effect of a good showing
 - Enthusiasm
 - Pennsylvania
 - Test for the team
 - Ohio
 - Indiana
 - Surrogates
 - Robert A. Taft, Jr.

Finch left and Alexander P. Butterfield entered at 1:57 pm

Papers to sign

Butterfield left at 1:59 pm

- President's schedule
 - Ehrlichman
 - Meetings
 - Explorer Scouts
 - Shultz's request



- Veterans Administration [VA] medical budget
- Charles M. Teague
- Olin E. (“Tiger”) Teague
- Arlen Specter
- Press conference
 - Types of questions
 - Previous press conference in California
 - Ziegler
 - Publicity value

President’s previous press conference

- Political questions
 - Press’ objections to Ziegler
 - Press’ motives

[Previous PRMPA Personal Returnable (G) withdrawal reviewed under deed of gift 05/16/2019. Segment cleared for release.]

[Personal Returnable]
[508-019-w012]
[Duration: 1m 13s]

President's schedule

- Press conferences during campaign
 - Lyndon B. Johnson

1972 campaign

- Robert H. Finch's memorandum
 - The President’s opinion
- H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman
 - Strategy
 - Inspiration
 - President's role



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Peter G. Peterson

- Memorandum to the President
- Possible conversation with Haldeman and Ehrlichman
 - Charles L. Shultze and John W. Gardner
 - Partisanship
 - Bipartisanship
 - Shultze
 - Shultz's efforts
 - Gardner
 - Possible role with administration

Brookings Institution

Bipartisanship in government

- Support from Democrats

Anastasio Somoza Debayle dinner

- Kissinger
- Entertainment
 - Army Chorus
- President's schedule
 - Mrs. Nixon
 - Joint Chiefs of Staff
 - Forthcoming breakfast meeting

Haldeman left at 2:25 pm