

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log

(rev. 2/24)

Conversation No. 48-1

Date: February 23, 1971

Time: Unknown between 12:16 pm and 11:59 pm

Location: Cabinet Room

The President met with Dr. Edward E. David, Jr., Dr. John D. Baldeschwieler, David Z. Beckler, Dr. Ivan L. Bennett, Jr., Dr. Detlev W. Bronk, Dr. Solomon J. Buchsbaum, Dr. Theodore L. Cairns, Dr. Lee A. DuBridge, Dr. Val L. Fitch, Dr. Herbert Friedman, Dr. Richard L. Garwin, Dr. Murray Gell-Mann, Patrick E. Haggerty, Philip Handler, Dr. Hubert Heffner, Dr. Donald F. Hornig, Kenneth Harry Olsen, Dr. Herbert A. Simon, Dr. Lloyd H. Smith, Jr., Dr. Gerald F. Tape, Dr. Harland G. Wood, Dr. John Truxal, and Frank R. Pagnotta

[Recording begins while the conversation is in progress]

Search for cure for cancer

- National Cancer Authority
 - Approaches
 - Goals
 - Public support
- Commitment of \$100,000,000
 - Public support
- Statistics of death from cancer
- Economic cost of death from cancer
- Cost of fighting cancer
- National Institutes of Health [NIH] responsibility
- Scientific disciplines related to cancer research
- Precedential value of separate agency
 - Cardiovascular disease
 - Treatment of cancer compared to treatment of other diseases
- Prospects for success
- NIH
 - Leadership
 - Public fears
- Need for individual as a symbol
- Size of federal appropriation
 - Public relations

Environment

- Clean energy

Future shock

- New technology

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- Effect of introduction
- Cloud seeding of hurricanes
 - Effectiveness
 - Public response
 - Use of media to educate public
 - International problems

International trade and productivity

- Productivity gains
 - Unemployment and inflation
 - Administration's aims
 - Role of research and development
 - Unemployed scientists and engineers
 - Tax credits
 - Scope
 - Effect
 - Unemployment
 - High technology
 - Ways and Means Committee
 - Employment devices
 - Political problems
 - Manpower Training Bill
 - Public service jobs
 - Number
 - Abundance of students in United States
 - Balance of payments
 - Agriculture
 - High technology fields
 - National Science Foundation
 - Nature of unemployed

Lunch

[This segment was declassified on 02/28/2002.]

[National Security]

[048-001-w001]

[Duration: 36s]

Italy

- Statement by president of Fiat

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-Economic conditions

The President left at 1:03 pm

[Previous archivists categorized this section as unintelligible. It has been rereviewed and released 08/13/2019.]

[Unintelligible]

[048-001-w002]

[Duration: 1m 5s]

General conversation

Unknown chairman

David, et al. left at an unknown time before 11:59 pm

Conversation No. 48-2

Date: Unknown between February 23 and February 25, 1971

Time: Unknown between 1:03 pm, February 23 and 11:45 am, February 25, 1971

Location: Cabinet Room

Unknown persons met

Preparation of Cabinet Room for upcoming meeting

[Previous archivists categorized this section as unintelligible. It has been rereviewed and released 08/13/2019.]

[Unintelligible]

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[048-002-w001]

[Duration: 7m 45s]

[*This portion of the tape is mostly room noise with some muffled background conversation.*]

Preparation of Cabinet Room for upcoming meeting
-Demonstration

Recording was cut off at an unknown time before 11:45 am

Conversation No. 48-3

Date: February 25, 1971

Time: Unknown between 10:56 am and 11:50 am

Location: Cabinet Room

The President met with Mary D. Stifflemire, Bernice V. Alexander, Judith L. Johnson, William G. Hyland, W. Marshall Wright, Peter W. Rodman, C. Fred Bergsten, Harold H. Saunders, Nancy L. Meinking, Arnold Nachmanoff, Colonel Robert M. Behr, John H. Holdridge, John Glancy, Colonel Richard T. Kennedy, Winston Lord, Sheila R. Lopez, Dianne C. Matthews, Julienne L. Pineau, Dr. K. Wayne Smith, Helmut ("Hal") Sonnenfeldt, and Henry A. Kissinger

Air Force One
-Photographs

The President left at an unknown time before 11:45 am

Changes in something
-Review by the President

The President entered at 11:45 am

Signing of message
-Pens
-Secretaries
-Gifts

The President's appreciation for staff's efforts

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Appreciation of the President's efforts

Recording was cut off at an unknown time before 11:50 am

Conversation No. 48-4

Date: February 26, 1971

Time: Unknown after 10:00 am until 12:35 pm

Location: Cabinet Room

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew met with William P. Rogers, Melvin R. Laird, Richard M. Helms, Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, John N. Irwin II, Henry A. Kissinger, George H. W. Bush, U. Alexis Johnson, Frank J. Shakespeare, Joseph J. Sisco, Alfred L. Atherton, General Alexander M. Haig, Jr., John H. Holdridge, Harold H. Saunders, and Colonel Richard T. Kennedy

[Previous National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2014-013. Segment declassified on 04/17/2019. Archivist: DR]

[National Security]

[048-004-w001]

[Duration: 37m 23s]

Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

Stephen B. Bull entered at an unknown time after 10:00 am

The President's schedule

Bull left at an unknown time before 10:40 am

Strategic proposal [?]

-February 25, 1971

-Embassy

-Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

-The President

-Reversal of position

-The President's prestige

-Protection of prestige

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

Tape Subject Log

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- Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.
- Carrier movement
 - Port calls [?]
 - Call off trip
- Chile
- Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

The President entered at 10:40 am

Vietnam

- Capability of Ho Chi Minh trail
 - Scope
 - South Vietnam and Cambodia
 - Roads, trails
 - Peak 1968
 - Quarter million men moved
- North Vietnamese military dispositions
 - January 4, 1971
 - Offensive
 - February 7, 1971
 - Intelligence reports
 - Material traffic
 - Phou Chapon
 - Bistram [?] 32 way station
 - Report of February 13, 1971
 - Lam Son 719
 - Forthcoming Thomas H. Moorer presentation
 - North Vietnamese Army [NVA] regiments
 - Defector
 - 70-V Corps
 - Possibly 6 divisions
 - Laotian aid
 - Operation Desert Rat
 - Impact on Route 23 and 238
 - Personnel
 - North Vietnamese
 - Thai troops
 - Laotian troops
 - Role in Operation Desert Rat

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Tape Subject Log

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- Numbers
- Tribesman
- Meo guerrillas in South Laos
- Operation Desert Rat
 - Route 23 and 238
 - US advisors
 - Location
 - Inability to withstand frontal assault
 - Route 23
- Task Force Gulf
 - 42 guerrillas
 - Role in guerrilla attacks
 - February 1971 actions
 - Destruction of 33 trucks and 20 enemy deaths
 - Plain of jars
 - Vang Pao and Meo guerrillas
 - Personnel numbers
 - North Vietnamese Army [NVA] attack
 - Mortars
 - Preparations
 - Photos of terrain and troops
 - Meo training camp
 - Appearance in newspaper
 - Air strip Ban Na Le
- People's Republic of China [PRC]
 - Road building
 - Northwest Laos
- Laos defense
 - Sri Savang Vatthana
 - Vong Savang
 - Pathet Lao
 - Souvanna Phouma actions
 - Closed military schools
- People's Republic of China's [PRC] role in Laos
 - Troop numbers
 - Defense of personnel
 - Guns, Anti-air, radar systems
 - Road building activities
 - Background
 - Frank J. Shakespeare
 - George H. W. Bush
 - Road construction
 - Background

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Tape Subject Log

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- Patterns
 - Linking
 - Time frame
- North Vietnamese Army [NVA]
 - Extent of engagements
 - Fronts
 - Attrition
 - Laotian tactics
 - Prospects of success
 - Souvanna Phouma
 - 1962 agreement on neutrality of Laos
 - North Vietnam's view
 - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR]
 - People's Republic of China [PRC]
- People's Republic of China's [PRC] role in Laos
 - Direct access due to road
 - Logistics
 - Effect of People's Republic of China [PRC] involvement
 - Scope
 - Threat to Thailand
- Ho Chi Minh Trail
 - Central Intelligence Agency [CIA]-Defense Intelligence Agency [DIA]
 - Intelligence disagreement
 - Point-of-view
 - Logistics
 - South of Phou Chapon
 - Focus on supplies
 - Rationale
 - Drug traffic
 - Potential disagreement within Administration
 - The press
 - New York Times* photograph
 - The President's opinion
- People's Republic of China [PRC]
 - Role in Laos
 - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] conclusion
 - Relations with Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR]
 - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] statement
 - Condemnation of US
 - Role of Nguyen Van Thieu
 - Effect on propaganda
- Walter F. Mondale resolution
 - The President's opinion

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Tape Subject Log

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-North Vietnamese

Walter F. Mondale

- Attacks on administration
- Caucus of Democrats [?]
 - Edmund S. Muskie
 - George S. McGovern
- Kissinger
- Rogers
- Laird
- Henry M. ("Scoop") Jackson
- 73 Group
- 72 Group
- Administration counter to criticism
- Democratic support

[This segment was declassified on 02/28/2002.]

[National Security]

[048-004-w002]

[Duration: 1m 37s]

Walter F. Mondale

- Democratic support
 - South Vietnamese presence in Laos
 - South Vietnam withdrawal
- Combat prospects in Laos
- US sorties

Congressional resolution

- Effect on congressional activity
 - Selective Service Act
 - Democratic Policy Committee
- Funding for air activity
- Effect on troops

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF

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[This segment was declassified on 02/28/2002.]

[National Security]

[048-004-w003]

[Duration: 1h 14 40s]

Vietnam

-Trop Sang [?] Lam Son 719

-Background

-Associated operations

-South Vietnam

-Cambodia

-Laos

-U min forest operation

-Parrot's beak

-Commando hut [?] one [?]

-Objectives

-Results

-Naval action

-Objectives

-Operation Desert Rat

-Trop Sang [?] 71

-Geographic scope

-Order of battle

-South Vietnamese

-North Vietnamese

-Results

-Lam Son 719

-Geographic scope

-Results

-Order of battle

-Army of the Republic of Vietnam [ARVN]

-Objectives

-Results

-Creighton W. Abrams, Jr.

-Reinforcement plan

-Intelligence reports

-[First name unknown] Sullivan

-Troop movements

-Message to Thomas H. Moorer

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- Army of the Republic of Vietnam [ARVN] airborne
 - Competence
 - [First name unknown] Phume [sp] [?]
 - Competence

- Logistics
 - Pipeline
 - Maintenance
 - Fuel depots
 - Attacks on pipeline
 - Effect
 - Truck flow
 - [First name unknown] Clay
 - George H. W. Bush
 - [First name unknown] Clay
 - Bottlenecks in trails
 - Extent of bombing
 - Routes southward
 - Use of manual labor
 - Makeup

[Previous National Security (B) withdrawal reviewed under MDR guidelines case number LPRN-T-MDR-2014-013. Segment declassified on 04/18/2019. Archivist: DR]

[National Security]

[048-004-w003]

[Duration: 6s]

- Vietnam
 - Logistics
 - Truck flow
 - Makeup
 - Location of four irregular battalions

- Vietnam
 - Logistics
 - Truck flow
 - Effect of interdiction
 - Prospects for Army of the Republic of Vietnam [ARVN] troops

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- Effect of air attacks
- Public opinion
 - Use of photographs
 - Wire services
 - Nguyen Van Thieu
- Strength of North Vietnamese Army [NVA]
 - Demilitarized Zone [DMZ] troops
 - Total troops
 - Troops north of Demilitarized Zone [DMZ]
 - Losses
 - Effect on replacement of troops
 - Melvin R. Laird
 - Army of the Republic of Vietnam [ARVN] prospects for gains
- Media coverage
 - Focus on US troops
 - Public relations value
 - World War II precedent
 - Interviews of troops
 - Location
 - Effect of combat
 - Makeup of Press corps
 - Media competition
 - Access to Army of the Republic of Vietnam [ARVN] operations
 - Civil War battle confusion
 - Antietam
 - Gettysburg
 - Interest in facts
 - Army of the Republic of Vietnam [ARVN]
 - Competence
 - Leadership
 - US role
 - Purpose of military action
 - Daily press coverage
 - Creighton W. Abrams, Jr.'s memo
 - Prospects for success
 - Media coverage
 - Basis for decisions
 - North Vietnamese Army [NVA] efforts
 - Artillery buildup
 - Khe Sanh
 - Possible attack
 - Media coverage
 - Impact on population

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- Management of interviews
- Media bias
 - Networks
- Presence on camera
- CBS complaints to Pentagon
- National Broadcasting Company [NBC]–Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS]
- Presentation of stories
 - Travel by newsmen
 - Laos

North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO]

Middle East

- Use of General Assembly
- Background
 - Two track approach
 - Four power talks
 - Progress
 - Pressure on George H. W. Bush at United Nations [UN]
 - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR]
 - France
 - Egyptian view
 - Canal reopening
 - Anwar el-Sadat proposal
 - US role
 - View of principals
 - Timing
 - Israeli proposals
 - Egyptian proposals
 - Golda Meir view
 - Gunnar Jarring role
 - Focus of proposals
 - Israeli withdrawal
 - Demilitarization
 - Security of Sharm el-Sheikh
 - Israeli response to Egyptian proposals
 - Border question

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(rev. 2/24)

LPRN-T-MDR-2014-013. Segment declassified on 12/20/2017. Archivist: DR]

[National Security]

[048-004-w004]

[Duration: 8s]

Middle East

- Background
 - Gunnar Jarring role
 - Israeli response to Egyptian proposals
 - Border question
 - Anwar el-Sadat
 - [Hussein, King of Jordan] Hussein ibn Talal

Middle East

- Background
 - Gunnar Jarring role
 - Israeli response to Egyptian proposals
 - Effect on Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] ambitions
- Egyptian position
 - Israeli reaction
- Israeli position
 - William P. Rogers–Yitzhak Rabin meeting
 - Response to Egyptian position
 - impact
 - Decision making process
 - Golda Meir
 - Comparison with 1967 position
 - Dean Rusk–Moshe Dayan meeting
 - Sharm el-Sheikh
 - US support for United Nations [UN] resolution
 - Need for solid position
 - Action of United Nations [UN] Security Council
 - Yitzhak Rabin comments
 - Positive vs. Negative focus
 - Effect of canal opening
 - Separation from other issues
- US negotiating strategy
 - Supply of arms to Israel
 - The President–Golda Meir discussions
 - Democrat criticism

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- Henry M. (“Scoop”) Jackson
- Supply of arms
 - Israeli borders
 - Israeli negotiation efforts
- Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] intentions in Middle East
- Egyptian intentions in Middle East
- Hussein ibn Talal
- Election pressure on administration
- Meir
- US negotiating strategy
 - Israeli negotiation efforts
 - US role in talks
 - Arab position
 - March 6th
 - Prospects
 - Cease-fire extension
 - Renewed fighting
 - 1967 war
 - Scenario
- Balance of power
 - US support for Israel
 - US–Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR] stalemate
 - Effect of Israeli aggression
- United Nations [UN] efforts by US
 - Public vs. private efforts
 - Drawbacks of public efforts
- Incentives to Israel
 - Arms
 - Quid pro quo*
- New York Times* story
 - Charles W. Yost
 - View of Israel
 - Effect on US strategy
- Limits to US aid to Israel
- Limits to US aid to Egypt

Recording was cut off at an unknown time before 12:35 pm