

**NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**



**Tape Subject Log**  
(rev. 10/06)

Conversation No. 657-1

Date: January 26, 1972  
Time: 5:05 pm - 6:17 pm  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Henry A. Kissinger.  
[Recording begins while the conversation is in progress]

Vietnam

- Press response to the President's peace plan proposal speech, January 25, 1972
  - Benjamin C. Bradlee
  - Donald Oberdorfer, Jr.
- North Vietnam's reaction to publication of terms
- US negotiating
- Strategy
  - Seven points
  - Liberals
  - Kissinger's press conference, January 26, 1972
    - Public and private positions
  - North Vietnam's reaction to publication of terms
  - William J. Porter
    - Hardline
  - Ceasefire
    - 1970
  - North Vietnamese goals
    - US surrender
    - Communist government in South Vietnam
      - Self-determination
  - Public relations
    - Kissinger's forthcoming message to Porter
- Ellsworth F. Bunker
  - Message
  - Message from the President
  - Support for the President's Vietnam speech
- Media response to the President's peace proposal speech
  - North Vietnam's reaction to publication of terms
    - US public relations plans
    - US surrender
- US negotiating strategy
  - William Moyers
  - Washington Post*

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- New York Times*
- Editorial
- Tone
- Forthcoming briefing by Kissinger
- Timing
- Content

Page Belcher and the White House photographer entered and Kissinger left at 5:12 pm.

Photograph session

Visit from Dutch Prime Minister [Berand W. Biesheuvel]

[Photograph session]

The White House photographer left at 5:12 pm.

- Tulsa Hospital
- Clark MacGregor
- Cost
- Meaning

[The President talked with the White House operator at an unknown time between 5:12 pm and 5:14 pm.]

[Conversation No. 657-1A]

[See Conversation No. 19-122]

[End of telephone conversation]

- Tulsa Hospital
- Belcher's talk with MacGregor
- Signing
- History

[The President talked with MacGregor between 5:14 pm and 5:15 pm.]

[Conversation No. 657-1B]

[See Conversation No. 19-123]

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

[End of telephone conversation]

## Mary C. Higgins

- Call from the President
- Support for the President
  - 1962 California gubernatorial campaign
    - The President's comments to the press
    - Belcher's comment to Thelma C. ("Pat") Nixon
- Religion
- Beliefs regarding the President's future in politics
- Death
  - Cancer
- Call from the President
- Performance as Belcher's assistant
- Rose Mary Woods's view
- Marital status

## Political friendship

- Belcher's support for the President

## Agriculture Department

- Earl L. Butz
- Clifford M. Hardin
  - Butz
  - Ezra Taft Benson
    - Belcher's support
  - Butz
- Clarence D. Palmby

## The President's 1952 fund

- Belcher's telegrams
  - Dwight D. Eisenhower, Republican National Committee, Robert A. Taft, Sr.
- Belcher's speech
- The President's *Checkers* speech
  - Congressional dealings
    - Scandal

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

Agriculture

- Butz
  - Farm spending
- Congressional relations
  - George D. Aiken
  - Jack R. Miller
  - Barry M. Goldwater
- Reserve bill
  - Defeat
    - Vote
      - Milton R. Young
      - Carl T. Curtis
      - Hubert H. Humphrey
      - George S. McGovern
  - Veto
- Costs
  - Purchase, storage
- House of Representatives
  - Committee
  - Floor
    - Republican votes
  - Belcher's schedule
  - New York
- Butz
  - Talk with Belcher, January 25, 1972
  - Hyde H. Murray
- Hardin
- Butz
  - Call to Belcher
- Farm bill
  - Costs
    - Belcher's efforts
      - Farm losses
      - Welfare
- Agricultural support
  - Congressional voting
  - Miller
    - Belcher's voting record
      - Miller
        - Vietnam
        - Belcher

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- Congressional support for administration
  - Senate
  - Henry L. Bellmon
  - House of Representatives
- House leadership
  - Gerald R. Ford, Leslie C. Arends and Barber B. Conable, Jr.
  - Support for Belcher
  - Butz
  - Leadership meetings
    - The President's Vietnam peace proposal speech
    - Goldwater
    - Belcher's attendance
- Belcher's past contacts with Presidents
  - Present administration
    - Compared to Eisenhower Administration
    - Golf

Golf

Belcher's health

- Blood pressure
- Doctors' advice
  - Golf
- Golf
  - Partners
    - Arends
    - Ford
    - Lobbyists
- Age
- Golf
  - Doctor's advice
  - Courses
    - Florida, Air Force Academy

Congressional relations

- Past contacts with White House
- Voting record
  - Farm bills
    - Political effect on Belcher
      - Ford
      - Miller

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- Young
- Butz
  - Criticism
    - Hardin
    - Benson
      - William J. Scherle
      - Request for resignation
    - Orville L. Freeman
    - Democrats
- Farmers
  - Belcher's career
  - Belcher's father
    - Position
  - Ross Rizley
- Farm bill
  - Hardin
  - Benson
  - Joseph W. Martin, Jr.
  - Hardin
  - Support
    - Democrats
    - Carl B. Albert
    - Republicans
  - Belcher's actions
    - Effect on the President, Hardin
    - Introduction
      - Bipartisanship
  - Amendments
    - White House desires
    - Sugar bill
    - Pesticide bill
    - Committee vote
    - Floor vote
- Hardin
  - Reason for leaving

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

[Privacy]

[Duration: 3s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

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- Replacement
- Ralston-Purina job

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4

[Privacy]

[Duration: 4s]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 4

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- Age
- Contact with Belcher
- Corn prices
- Butz
  - Ralston-Purina
- Confirmation
- Relations with Belcher
  - Meetings
    - Frequency
- William R. Poage
- Poage
  - Relations with Belcher
    - House agriculture committee

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- House agriculture committee
  - Scherle
- Wiley Mayne
- H[arold] R. Gross
- Miller
- John H. Kyl
- Scherle
- Mayne
- Harold E. Hughes
- Miller
- John Sherman Cooper
- Miller
- Belcher's role
- John C. Whitaker

Stephen B. Bull [?] entered at an unknown time after 5:15 pm.

The President's schedule

Bull [?] left at an unknown time before 5:48 pm.

Belcher's support of administration

- Whitaker
- Opinion on politics
  - Bryce N. Harlow
    - Belcher's wife and Harlow's father
- Belcher's efforts to contact the President
  - The President's word
- Whitaker
- Butz
  - Farm bills

Football

- Belcher

Murray, Butz and MacGregor entered at 5:48 pm.

Whitaker's schedule

The President's relationship with Belcher

- Butz contact



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**Tape Subject Log**

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- House agriculture committee
- Belcher's support for the Administration
  - Political effect
- Hardin

Farm Bill

- Belcher's opinion
  - Budget increase
- Future relationships
  - Poage
  - Miller
- Reelections
  - Curtis
- Scherle
  - Forthcoming breakfast meeting
  - 1972
  - Miller
  - Announcement

Tulsa Hospital

- Governor [David Hall]
  - Signing
- Public relations
  - The President's meeting with Belcher
- Signing of mortgage guarantee
- St. John's Hospital
  - Catholics

Whitaker entered at 5:55 pm.

Agriculture

- Whitaker
  - Belcher
    - Contact with the President
    - 1972
- Congressional leadership meeting
  - Belcher's attendance
  - Political cheerleading
    - Benefits
    - Goldwater
    - Football metaphor

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

- Cattle import from Italy
  - Quarantine
    - Duration
    - Location
      - New Jersey
- Belcher's outlook
  - Politics
- Corn prices
- National Wheat Growers Association
  - Denver
  - American Farm Bureau Federation [AFBF]
  - Butz's talk with unknown person
- Administration program
  - Popularity
    - Oklahoma
      - Bellmon
  - Belcher's talk with AFBF
  - Milk producers
  - Cattlemen
- Corn prices
  - Prospects
- Acre reduction in feed grains
  - Forthcoming farmers' intentions report
    - Timing
  - Changes
  - Spending
    - Butz's talk with the President, November 1971
    - Bill
      - Political effect in Senate
- Long range plans
  - Need for secrecy
  - Soviet package
    - Foreign policy
      - Farm vote
    - Maurice H. Stans
- Farmers' vote
  - Albert H. Quie
  - John Zwach
  - Quie
    - Meetings
      - Dairy farmers

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- National Farmers Organization [NFO]
- National Farmers Union [NFU]

Congressional relations

- Belcher
- Harlow
- The President's contacts with Congressmen
  - The President's morale
- Votes
  - Belcher
  - Clement F. Haynsworth
  - G. Harrold Carswell
  - [Unknown person]
- Belcher
  - Power behind the scenes
- The President's contact with Congressmen
- Belcher
  - Prior support
  - Contacts in Congress
    - Belcher's philosophy
- Rural development legislation
  - Forthcoming message
  - Humphrey
    - White House strategy
- Belcher's support for administration
  - Contact with the Administration
  - Administration's requests
    - Gratitude
- Benson
  - Belcher
  - H. Carl Andersen of Minnesota

Bull entered at an unknown time after 5:55 pm.

Belcher's staff

- Gifts
  - Money clip
    - Presidential seal
    - Previous visit from Biesheuvel

Bull left at an unknown time before 6:16 pm.

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Vietnam negotiations

-Hanoi's reaction to US proposal

Letters to Democrat presidential candidates

-Ford

-Albert

-Budget plan

-F. Edward Hebert

-George H. Mahon

-Gillespie V. Montgomery

-Albert

-John W. McCormack

-Congressional majority

-Hugh Scott and Ford

Belcher, et al. left and Alexander P. Butterfield and Stephen B. Bull entered at 6:16 pm.

Nomination for the President's signature

The President's schedule

-Forthcoming telephone call

Manolo Sanchez entered at an unknown time after 6:16 pm.

Delivery of item

Coat

Sanchez left at an unknown time before 6:17 pm.

Item for the President's signature

Dr. W. Kenneth Riland

Belcher

-Air Force One

-Relationship with the President

Telephone call

-Kissinger

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Conv. No. 657-1 (cont.)

The President, *et al.* left at 6:17 pm.

Conversation No. 657-2

Date: January 26, 1972

Time: Unknown between 6:17 pm and 11:59 pm

Location: Oval Office

Alexander P. Butterfield me with unknown people.

[Unintelligible]

The President's location

[Unintelligible]

Butterfield and the unknown people left at an unknown time before 11:59 pm.