



**NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**

**Tape Subject Log**  
*(rev. 10/08)*

Conversation No. 525-1

Date: June 17, 1971  
Time: 5:15 pm - 6:10 pm  
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Rose Mary Woods.

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1  
[Personal Returnable]  
[Duration: 2m 17s ]

HENRY A. KISSINGER ENTERED AT 5:16 PM

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1

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Woods left and John D. Ehrlichman and H.R. ("Bob") Haldeman entered at 5:17 pm.

Pentagon Papers

- Administration response
  - John N. Mitchell's court efforts
  - William P. Rogers' statement
    - Need to win court case and public relations case
      - John B. Connally
- Rogers' statement
  - Quality
- Lyndon B. Johnson comments
  - Possible press conference
    - Bryce N. Harlow's role
    - Kissinger's previous call to Lyndon B. Johnson
- Effect on administration
  - Personnel
    - Connally
    - Spiro T. Agnew

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- Gen. George A. Lincoln
- General view of President's position
  - Connally
- Attack on Presidency
- Attack on Nixon and Johnson
  - Rebuttal by administration
    - Media coverage
    - Criteria for *New York Times* coverage
- Desirability of comment by President
  - Possible space
  - Rogers' statement
    - Letters to Senators
  - Legality of comments
    - Court case
    - Kissinger's statement
      - Quality
      - Content
  - Need for comment by President
  - Proper scope
    - Outline
  - Scope
  - Preparation
  - Coverage by "Northeastern press"
    - New York Times*
- President's comments on security
  - Follow up
- Debriefing of employees
- Enforcement of security laws
- Responsibility of office heads for security
- Timing of administration counter
- Connally's action
  - Meeting with staff
    - Treasury Department relations with the press
    - Consequences of leaks

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 7

[Privacy]

[Duration: 35s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 7

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

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- President's remarks
- Issuance of memorandum
  - Content
  - Ehrlichman's role
- Times* use of press cards
  - Mitchell
  - Reprinting problem
- Times* action
- Haldeman's follow up to Congress
- Daniel Ellsberg's story
  - Washington Star*
- Kissinger's remembrance of Ellsberg
  - Vietnam service
  - General demeanor
  - International Security Affairs [ISA] background at the Department of Defense
  - John J. McNaughton
  - Intellect
  - Change of political opinion
  - Contact during transition

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

[Privacy]

[Duration: 17s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 2

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

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- Contact with Henry A. Kissinger
  - Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT] speech by Kissinger
    - Ellsberg heckling
    - "Murder in Laos" article
- Obtaining documents
- Research and Development Corporation [RAND] copies of Vietnam story
  - Ellsberg action compared to Alger Hiss and Whitaker Chambers action
- Reason for Ellsberg action
- Reason for *Times* action
  - Opposition to President's Vietnam policy

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BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

[Privacy]

[Duration: 15s ]

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 3

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- Administration response
  - President's comments
    - Ehrlichman's role
  - Haldeman's role
    - Remarks
      - Patrick J. Buchanan
- Kissinger's comments at North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] lunch

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- Response
- Remarks by President
  - Content of papers
  - Principle of secrecy
- Times* determination of national interest
- Embarrassment of Johnson and John F. Kennedy
- Defense of principle
  - Reaction to loss of security
  - President's legal obligations
    - Reasons for the law
    - Congressional mandate
      - Kissinger memo
  - Declassification procedures
- Case before Supreme Court
  - Possible action by the President
- Need for remarks by President
  - Impact
- Rogers' statement
  - Impact
  - Content
    - Political predispositions of authors, et al.
    - Conviction of Johnson
    - Relation to Joseph McCarthy era
      - Prosecution for advice
        - Times*' previous view
      - Lack of content
- Stewart J.O. Alsop editorial
  - Times* previous stance on security of communication
  - Adlai E. Stevenson, III and Kennedy
  - Use by administration
    - Timing
- Need for running battle
  - Ronald L. Ziegler and Herbert G. Klein view
  - Restriction of *Times* reporters
- Attacks from other papers
- McCarthy era analogy
- Richard M. Helms comments
  - Times* interpretation of morality
    - Stevenson
    - Johnson
    - Selective embarrassment
- Times* interpretation of First Amendment rights

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

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- Times* wrongdoing
- Times* responsibility
- Johnson's action
- Robert S. McNamara
  - Rebuttal
    - Position as president of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development [World Bank]
    - Loyalty to Johnson Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)
- McGeorge Bundy comment
  - Attack on Johnson
- Kennedy
  - Ngo Dinh Diem death
    - Henry Cabot Lodge and Kennedy's role
- William Moyers
- Diem death
  - President's revelation
- Constraints of lawsuit
- Diem death
  - President's knowledge

Ziegler entered at an unknown time after 5:17 pm.

Legislation

- Defeat of anti-war bills
- Margin

Ziegler left at an unknown time before 6:13 pm.

Pentagon Papers

- Bombing halt file
  - Relation to Lyndon B. Johnson's statement
  - Attempts to obtain it
  - Tom Charles Huston recollections
    - Brookings role
  - Implementation of Huston plan
  - Johnson's concern
    - Timing of bombing
    - Content
      - W. Averell Harriman
    - Effects of release
      - Johnson's reaction
  - Harlow contact with Johnson

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Upcoming Vice Presidential trip

- Harlow's attendance
- Harlow's role
- Agnew
- Korea

Pentagon Papers

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

- Agnew's role
  - Recent performances
  - Ehrlichman contact with Agnew
  - Future Agnew role
- Robert J. Dole
- Agnew attacks on *Times*
- Nelson A. Rockefeller attacks on *Times*
  - Role of advertisers
  - Bonwit Teller
- Administration attack
  - Role of sources
  - Treasury Department role
  - Council Economic Advisers [CEA]
    - George P. Shultz
    - Connally
    - Maurice H. Stans
    - Elliot L. Richardson
  - George W. Romney
  - John A. Volpe
  - Rogers C.B. Morton
  - John N. Mitchell
  - Ken Martin ("Ken") Worthy [?]
    - Morton contacts
  - Morton
  - Melvin R. Laird
  - Rogers
    - Willingness to join attack
    - Ending backgrounders
  - "Good" reporters
    - Max Frankel
  - Mitchell
  - Stans
  - Connally
  - Dole

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- Republican National Committee contact with *Times*
  - Franklyn C. Nofziger
  - Effect on Stewart Lurie
  - Effect on columnists
- Other contacts with *Times*
  - Ziegler's tactics
  - Return of calls
  - Kissinger action
  - National Security Council [NSC] staff
  - Media fallout
    - Need for perseverance
- James B. ("Scotty") Reston
  - Position
    - Barry M. Goldwater
- Contact with *Times* competition
  - Daily News*
    - Jerry Greene action
  - Chicago Tribune* reaction to *Times* story
  - Bill Mullen (?) reaction
  - James S. Copley, Richard Wilson, William Randolph Hearst, Jr. reaction
    - Contact with Hearst
  - Los Angeles Times* reaction
- Policing of press
- Times* and White House relationship
  - Future relations
    - Access to Oval Office
- Upcoming trips
  - Times* travel courtesies
- Eastern liberal press
  - White House contact with Clark M. Clifford
    - Extent of information from
  - Congressional statements
- Effect on Hubert H. Humphrey
  - Humphrey comments
    - Effect of Vietnam study on behavior
- Effect on Edward M. ("Ted") Kennedy
  - Support for McNamara
  - Times* material on Kennedy administration activities
    - Use by President
    - Henry Cabot Lodge's role
    - Ngo Dinh Diem file
      - Kennedy activity

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

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- Lodge evidence
  - Lodge position on release of evidence
  - Kennedy's communication with Lodge
  - Consequences of coup
  - Action against the *Times*
  - Severity of *Times* transgression
  - Press double standard
  - Expected *Times* actions Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)
    - White House files
      - Kissinger staff checks
    - Set up of files
      - Helmut ("Hal") Sonnenfeldt
        - Access to Kissinger conversations with Anatoliy F. Dobrynin
      - Sonnenfeldt duties
      - William A.K. ("Tony") Lake access
  - Edmund S. Muskie reaction to *Times* story
  - Humphrey reaction
    - Johnson's position
      - Support for Ted Kennedy
      - Support for Humphrey
  - McNamara's statement
    - Humphrey knowledge of Vietnam activities
    - Johnson
  - Agnew exposure to White House tactics
  - Humphrey statement
    - "Need to know" doctrine
    - Johnson's Vietnam judgement
  - US actions
    - Rogers and Laird
    - World War II
    - Korea
    - Vietnam
      - President's questions
        - Tactics
        - Kissinger's recollection
      - "Purpose" of U.S. action
      - Methods
      - Goals
- Drug policy statement
- Play in media

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Rochester trip

- Kenneth B. Keating invitation
- Congressional contacts during trip
- Keating
- Performance

\*\*\*\*\*Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 6

[National Security]

[Duration: 49s]

INDIA

END WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 6

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Pakistan

- Life* magazine issue

US and Federal Republic of Germany relations

- Willy Brandt
- Kissinger's conversation with Egon Bahr
- Purchase of aircraft

Pentagon Papers

- Effect on White House enemies
- Haldeman
- Need for White House attack
- Reduction of ambassadorial access to *Times*
  - D. Kenneth Rush
  - Ellsworth F. Bunker
  - Arthur K. Watson

Kissinger left at 6:05 pm.

Haldeman and Ehrlichman left at 6:07 pm.

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Alexander P. Butterfield entered at 6:07 pm.

[Signing of documents]

President's schedule  
-Rochester schedule  
-Action folders

Conv. No. 525-1 (cont.)

Marjorie P. Acker entered at 6:09 pm.

Rose Mary Woods' schedule  
-Executive Office Building [EOB] meeting with President

The President, et al. left at 6:10 pm.

Conversation No. 525-2

Date: Unknown between June 17 and June 18, 1971  
Time: Unknown between 6:13 pm, June 17 and 8:40 am, June 18, 1971  
Location: Oval Office

Unknown people [Secret Service agents ?] met.

President's location  
-Executive Office Building [EOB]

Unknown people [Secret Service?] left at an unknown time before 8:40 am, June 18, 1971.