

Conversation No. 670-13
 Date: February 14, 1972
 Time: 1:04 pm - 2:25 pm
 Location: Oval Office

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

Monday

- Recent issue
 - Julie Nixon Eisenhower [?]
 - The President's Vietnam peace plan
 - Democrats
 - Vietnam
 - Edmund S. Muskie statements form 1968
 - Peace talks
 - Possible endangerment
 - Chicago
 - John A. Scali
 - The President's 1968 statement

Julie Eisenhower [?]

Attorney General's [John N. Mitchell] resignation

An unknown man entered at an unknown time after 1:04 pm.

Item

- Delivery to residence
 - Thelma C. ("Pat") Nixon

The unknown man left at an unknown time before 1:27 pm.

Ronald L. Ziegler

Portraits

- Autographs
 - Rose Mary Woods
 - Older photographs
- Milling
 - View
 - Family
- Serious
 - Oliver F. ("Ollie") Atkins
- Candid shots

Press

- Forthcoming trip to the People's Republic of China [PRC]
 - Ziegler
 - Meeting with the President
 - Possible movie shown to the press
 - News
 - Hawaii
 - Movie
 - The President's briefing
 - Contents of movie
 - Henry A. Kissinger
 - Inclusion
 - Ziegler's concern
 - Stories
 - Pressure on the press corps
 - Hawaii
 - Ziegler
 - Concern

Kissinger

- Talk with Haldeman
 - Scali
 - Alexander M. Haig, Jr.

Briefing books

- Mrs. Nixon
 - Press
 - Ziegler
 - Chinese
 - Questions to Mrs. Nixon
 - President's instructions
 - Brief
 - Kissinger
 - Sending a briefing book to Mrs. Nixon
 - Instructions to Haldeman
 - Guiding points and suggestions
 - Patrick J. Buchanan
 - Questions and answers [Q&A]
 - Things to be said in contrast to things not to be said
 - Kissinger
 - Buchanan
 - Press conference
 - Guiding points
 - Length
 - Kissinger
 - Ziegler
 - Scali

- Kissinger
- Examination

Ambassadors

- Joseph S. Farland
 - Kissinger
 - Martin J. Hillenbrand
 - West Germany
 - Kissinger
 - Peter M. Flanigan
 - Hillenbrand
 - Kissinger
 - Possible rejection
 - Foreign Service
 - [David] Kenneth Rush
 - President's support of Hillenbrand
- William H. Sullivan
 - Iran

Press

- PRC trip
 - Movie
 - Briefing
 - Kissinger
 - Advance stories
 - Ziegler
 - Movie narration
 - Dwight L. Chapin
 - Instructions
 - Chinese
 - Chou En-lai
 - Haig
 - Ziegler
 - Press
 - Decision

Andre Malraux dinner

- Unknown person's location
 - Williamsburg
 - Substitute
 - Scali
 - Kissinger
 - Arrival of Howard K. Smith
- Book
 - Unknown person's age

[No conversation]

Herbert Stein speech

- Distribution
 - Clark MacGregor
 - Senate

John N. Mitchell resignation

- Talk with the President
 - Timing
 - Politics
 - Haldeman's previous conversation with Mitchell
 - Statements
 - Timing
 - Story
- Announcement of resignation
- Date
- Statement
 - Justice Department
- Nominations
- White House
- Nominations
 - Mitchell's instructions
- The President's answering letter
 - The President's handwritten note
 - Not for the public
 - Staff note
 - Contents
 - Law enforcement
 - Respect for the law
 - The President's handwritten note
 - Handwritten note
 - John W. Dean, III
 - John D. Ehrlichman

Kissinger entered at 1:27 pm.

North Vietnamese

- Lunch
 - Timing
 - Scheduling

Vietnam negotiations

- Offensive
- Note
- Lt. Gen. Vernon A. Walters

- Re-election of the President
- Peking
 - Kissinger's view
- Moscow Summit
- Peking
- Moscow Summit
 - Leonid I. Brezhnev
 - Letter to the President
 - North Vietnamese
- Settlement
 - Re-election of the President
 - Timing
- Haldeman Statements
 - Attack on domestic opponents
 - Effect on Hanoi
- Air power
 - Movements
 - Numbers
- Aircraft carriers
 - Movements
 - Numbers
 - Location
- North Vietnamese
 - Lunch
 - Significance
 - Requirements
 - Future meetings
 - Possible ulterior motives
 - Possible end to air strikes
- Air strikes
 - Possible end
- Union of Soviet Socialist Republics [USSR]
- PRC trip
 - Return
 - Report to nation
- Lunch
 - Purpose
 - Possibility of air strikes
- Meetings
 - Cancellation
 - US conditions
 - Versailles conference
 - December 1971 air strikes
 - Effectiveness
- Air Force [USAF]
 - Effect of bombing

- France
- Casualties
- Peking and Moscow
 - North Vietnamese fear
 - Détente
 - Chou En-lai
 - PRC
 - Hard stance
 - India-Pakistan War
 - Soviets
 - Chou En-lai
 - Previous conversation with Kissinger
 - Mao Tse-tung
 - Zulfikar Ali Bhutto
- North Vietnamese
 - Troop withdrawal
 - Political condition
 - PRC
 - Issues
 - Seven Points
 - Lack of help for the North Vietnamese
 - The President's July 15, 1971 announcement
 - Kissinger visit
- Press
- Peking
 - Pham Van Dong's statements
 - Le Duc Tho
 - Kissinger meeting
 - Soviets
 - Possible meeting
 - Moscow
 - Hanoi
 - Paris
 - Anatoliy F. Dobrynin
 - Meeting with Kissinger
 - Timing
- Moscow meeting
 - Hanoi
 - Deadlines
- “State of the World” report

Press

- Time* and *Newsweek*
- “State of the World” report
 - Publicity
- PRC

Howard R. Hughes biography

- Time* magazine cover
 - The President
 - Hughes
- Kissinger's request
 - Cover
 - Hughes
- Noah Dietrich's book
- John Phelan
 - Clifford Irving
 - Edith Irving
 - Money
 - Amount
 - Swiss banks
- Literary agent
 - Phelan

Vietnam negotiations

- North Vietnamese
 - Press
 - Headlines
- Soviet trip
 - Moscow Summit
 - Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT] agreement
 - Trade agreement
 - Middle East agreement
 - Seven agreements
 - Dobrynin
 - Scientific exchange
 - Environmental exchange
 - Space
 - Health
 - Announcement
 - Timing

PRC trip

- Ziegler and Kissinger
 - Press
 - Possible discontent
 - Stories
- Communiqué
 - Cultural and economic principles
 - Importance
 - Renunciation of force
 - Briefing book

- Background material
- Peking
- Shanghai
- Ziegler
- Press
 - William P. Rogers
 - Marshall Greene
 - Kissinger
 - Ziegler
 - Kissinger's talks with press
 - Daily briefings
 - Ziegler
 - PRC move
 - Importance
 - Soviets
 - Discipline
 - Kissinger's talks with the press
 - Ziegler
 - Arrival
 - Communiqué
 - Mao Tse-tung
 - Upcoming meeting
 - Pictures
 - Great Wall
 - Forbidden City
 - Banquet
 - Television
 - Opera
 - News stories
 - Mao Tse-tung
 - Abundance of news stories from PRC trip

North Vietnamese

- Significance
 - Kissinger and the President
- PRC
- Soviets
- Malraux
- Soviets
- [*Anti-Memoirs*]
 - Mao Tse-tung
 - Fate of wife
 - Chiang Kai-Shek
 - Meeting
 - Nationalists
- Secret talks

- Meetings
 - Le Duc Tho
 - Pairs
 - Public
 - Edmund S. Muskie
 - Democrats
 - Muskie
 - Credit
 - North Vietnamese request for meeting
 - Lunch
 - Length of previous meetings
 - Organization of previous meetings
 - Symbolism
- Le Duc Tho
 - Arrangement
 - Productivity of meetings
- Agreement
- Six out of eight points
 - Settlement
 - Democrats
 - Two points contested
 - Possible benefits of lunch
- Offer
 - Kissinger
- Settlement
- Demonstrations
 - Timing
- Secret meetings
- Demonstrations
 - Probable advantage for the Administration
 - Democrats
- Settlement
 - Possible offer
- Paris
 - Kissinger
 - Possible outcome
- Le Duc Tho
 - Revelation of secret meetings
 - Lunch
 - Uniqueness
 - North Vietnamese sensibilities
- Lyndon B. Johnson
 - 1968
 - Attitude
- The President's Vietnam peace proposal speech, January 25, 1972
- December 1971

- Bombing
- Publicity
- Military force
- News conference
 - The President's statements
 - Hard line
 - Compared to flexible line
- Summits
 - Soviets
 - Offensive
- Letters
 - Chou En-Lai
 - Brezhnev
 - Copy of the President's January 25, 1972 speech
- Bombing
 - Psychological reasons
- South Vietnam
 - Possible air strikes
- Communists
- PRC
 - Handling

PRC

- Announcement
 - Trade
- Dobrynin
 - Trade negotiations
 - Announcement
 - Agriculture
 - The President's approval
 - Moscow
 - Announcement prior to PRC trip
 - Possible March trip by US delegation
 - Peter G. Peterson
 - Maurice H. Stans
 - Compared to Peterson
 - Publicity
 - Summit
 - Grain deal
 - Agricultural representative
 - Peterson
 - More restrictive viewpoint
 - Stans
 - Earl L. Butz
 - Inclusion
 - [J. Philip Campbell]

- Political asset
 - Markets for US farmers
- Peterson
- Butz
 - Kissinger recommendation
 - Dobrynin
 - Talk with Kissinger
 - Foreign trade ministry
 - Peterson
 - Butz
 - Lunch with Kissinger
 - Timing
- Flanigan
- Possible advantages of Moscow trip
 - Butz
 - Peterson
- Peterson
 - Kissinger's view
- Announcement
 - Timing
 - PRC trip
 - Importance

Ambassadors

- West Germany
 - [Forename unknown] Hagerty
 - Rogers
 - Questions
 - Hillenbrand
 - Rush's view
 - Berlin agreement
 - Background
 - Training
 - Foreign Service
 - Soviets
 - Rogers
 - Germany
- Joseph F. Farland
 - Availability
 - Pakistan
 - Bhutto
- Hillenbrand
 - Possible replacement
- Second term
- Assistant Secretary Post
 - Vacant

- Administration's choice

- Flanigan
- Hagerty
- Richard M. Paget
- Rejection of post

North Vietnamese

- Clark M. Clifford
 - Democrats
- Offer
 - Democrats
 - Michael J. Mansfield
- Concessions
 - North Vietnamese peace plan
- Meeting
 - Uniqueness of present situation
 - Previous negotiations
- Negotiations
 - Delegation of senators
 - Administration's plan
 - Possible settlement
 - Date
 - Administration's plan
 - Clifford
- Press Corps
 - Ziegler
 - President's opinion
 - Stewart J.O. Alsop
 - Article on negotiations
 - Tone
 - Re-election of the President
- Dobrynin
 - Question to Kissinger
 - Keeping agreement
- Agreement
- Possible offensive
 - Delay
 - Bombing
 - Saving US, South Vietnamese lives
 - Credit to the Administration
 - Chances for a settlement
 - Private meetings

India

- PRC trip
 - Rogers

- Wire
- Views
- Return from PRC trip
- Pakistan
- Upcoming meeting

Kissinger left at 2:18 pm.

The President's schedule

- Meeting
 - Sladeddine El Goulli
 - Timing
- PRC trip
 - Vice President Spiro T. Agnew
 - Meeting
 - Barry M. Goldwater
 - Importance
- Leaders breakfast
- Agnew
 - Meeting
- Breakfast
 - Goldwater
 - Timing
- Arthur F. Burns
 - Weekly dinners
 - Businessmen
 - Number
 - Ehrlichman
 - John B. Connally
 - Participation
 - Peterson
 - Maurice H. Stans
 - Donald H. Rumsfeld's view
 - Dr. Franklin D. Murphy
 - Connally
 - Lyndon B. Johnson
 - Question and answer [Q&A] sessions
 - Black tie

Connally

- Tenure
 - Idanell B. ("Nellie") Connally
 - Texas, Mexico
 - Interests
 - Nellie Connally
 - Administration contacts

- Washington, DC
- Texas
 - Lyndon B. Johnson
 - Florida
 - Texas
 - Schedule

Forthcoming dinner for Malraux
-Leonard Garment

Haldeman left at 2:25 pm.