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NEWS CONFERENCE

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AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH RON NESSEN

AT 10:20 A.M. EDT

JUNE 7, 1975

SATURDAY

MR. NESSEN: I have two things. The President will have a news conference on Monday at 7:30 in the evening. If the weather is nice, we might try to have it in the Rose Garden. If the weather is not nice, we will not have it in the Rose Garden. We will have it in the EOB Auditorium, and we will decide that on Monday. But the time is 7:30 Monday, and if anybody wants to carry it on television, they are free to.

The other thing is that the President is accepting, with deep regret, the resignation of Peter H. Dominick, as Ambassador to Switzerland, effective on a date to be determined. I think some of you know Ambassador Dominick, and rather than going into great detail, let me say that his letter to the President spells out, in some detail, some health problems that the Ambassador has. And the President, in his letter, expresses "understanding and sympathy with the personal considerations which prompt your resignation at this time."

Q Do you have copies of the letters?

MR. NESSEN: I think I would prefer not to put these out, Dick. I do have copies of them, but it is a matter of health. And the Ambassador's letter to the President is somewhat detailed in its explanation, and I think, probably, we will just let it go at those quotations.

Q Then, would you mind going back over what you said the President said in response?

MR. NESSEN: The President accepts the resignation with deepest regret, and he says, "In doing so, I want you to know that I fully understand and sympathize with the personal considerations which prompt your decision at this time."

Q How long has he served in the post?

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MR. NESSEN: Let me just check. He was nominated on the 3rd of February of this year -- nominated. He was confirmed by the Senate on the 19th of February, and he was officially sworn in on the job and appointed on the 20th of February.

That is essentially all I have today.

Q There is no replacement, I assume, no new nominee?

MR. NESSEN: No, not at this point, Dick.

Q Would you term his sickness as being moderate, or is he very sick?

MR. NESSEN: It is clear it was for health reasons. I think I will let it go at that.

Q Can you tell us how old he was? Do you have any biographical material?

MR. NESSEN: We will dig some out for you.

Q Ron, what is the President's reaction to General Dynamics getting the YF-16 Contract?

MR. NESSEN: I want to check that, Frank. I have not had the opportunity this morning to do that.

Q How does the President feel about the Common Market vote?

MR. NESSEN: I will check that, too. I think we will have some reaction to the Common market vote.

Q Have you anything new to tell us about the CIA report?

MR. NESSEN: Well, Dick, you know, I look back at what I said when the CIA Commission, the Rockefeller Commission, was appointed in January, and what I said in January was that it had been appointed and was going to study this subject and I assume the report will be made public. And I don't believe I have said anything -- and certainly have not heard anything -- that changes that assumption.

Q I am sorry.

MR. NESSEN: I say, I have heard of nothing that changes that assumption.

Q Do you still assume it will be made public?

MR. NESSEN: I certainly do, after the President has read it and made his decision. It is the President's decision.

Q Have you talked to the President about that since our meeting yesterday?

MR. NESSEN: No.

Q Why didn't you say that yesterday?

MR. NESSEN: Nobody asked me that yesterday. Everybody was so intent on --

Q That was the entire thrust of the session, I thought.

MR. NESSEN: I thought the entire thrust was that we had a cover-up going.

Q They tried to ask you 16 times if you meant that it was not going to be made public.

MR. NESSEN: This is my assumption, Frank. It is the President's decision, and I think all of our difficulties yesterday stemmed from the fact that some people, apparently prematurely, announced a decision which the President has not yet made.

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Q Do you believe that the Vice President misspoke himself in saying that the report would be released?

MR. NESSEN: It has always, as the letter from Peter Clapper indicated, been our assumption -- and from the looks of his letter his assumption -- that the decision would be made by the President after he had read the report.

Q That was not my question. You said some people prematurely announced a decision.

MR. NESSEN: Seemed to.

Q Are you talking about the Vice President?

MR. NESSEN: The reporters here yesterday were saying they had been led to believe by White House officials, Administration officials -- and different words that were used -- but as I say, it has also been the plan that the President would make the decision.

Q Is the President reading the report? How far has he gotten on it?

MR. NESSEN: I have not found out what page he is on yet, Fran.

Q But he has read some of it?

MR. NESSEN: As far as I know, he has.

Q Can you give us any feeling for when we may expect to see it?

MR. NESSEN: I said he would make the decision after he has read the report, and I think he will finish the report over the weekend.

Q So would you look for a release some time next week?

MR. NESSEN: I would look for a decision on the release some time next week.

Q Ron, there has been a letter of criticism sent to Secretary Kissinger on the fact that a man was selected to make the keynote speech for the United States at the International Women's Year Conference in Mexico City. Is the President going to take any steps in that direction to change that, or is Kissinger?

MR. NESSEN: I have not heard of the case, Fran, but I will look into it for you.

Q Is Mrs. Ford going to go there since First Ladies from other countries are?

MR. NESSEN: Can you check Sheila? I don't know what the plans are.

Q I think it is a Presidential decision, too, so I want to put it in here.

MR. NESSEN: I have not heard one way or the other on that.

Dick?

Q I don't wish to beg the issue, but I do want to make sure that I understand you correctly.

MR. NESSEN: Go ahead and beg the issue.

Q You say that you certainly expect it to be made public?

MR. NESSEN: No, I didn't. I said I assumed last January it would be made public and I have heard nothing that changes that assumption.

Q Then you were asked if you expect it to be made public after the President reads it, I think, and you said, "I certainly do."

MR. NESSEN: Dick, you have to take better notes than that. Don't you have your little tape-recorder going?

Q No.

MR. NESSEN: I thought I said a decision would be made after he has read it, didn't I?

Q Do I have it wrong? I have "I have heard of nothing that changes that assumption," and your assumption was that it would be made public?

MR. NESSEN: Yes. Then you said, "When will it be released?" And I said I expected a decision on releasing it next week.

Q Ron, are the President's Energy and Economic Advisers meeting at Camp David this weekend?

MR. NESSEN: I don't know. I can check, though.

THE PRESS: Thank you, Ron.

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(AT 10:30 A.M. EDT)  
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