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MAR 6 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DON RUMSFELD

FROM:

RON NESSEN *RHN*

Attached find a memorandum prepared by Ed Savage of my office in response to your interest in having the President sit down for an interview with a small group of reporters representing foreign publications.

As you see, there are considerable problems but they are not insurmountable, especially if we permit a large enough group. Ed suggests ten.

Are you still interested in going ahead with this? If so, with the President's go ahead, I will get it in the works for some time after Kissinger returns from the Middle East.

Attachment

.cc: Jim Connor

*Don -
Savage
input attached
c.g.*

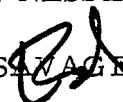


THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN

FROM: ED ~~SAVAGE~~ 

SUBJECT: FOREIGN PRESS INTERVIEWS WITH THE
 PRESIDENT

There follow suggested names for a group foreign press interview with the President.

As you will see, they are all specials. I believe this is the most productive approach because it will give these correspondents -- all of whom have represented major foreign journals on the American scene for many years -- a substantial opportunity to write careful and thorough analytical pieces on the President describing his personality, style, aims and programs, particularly on the international front.

I do urge that a session with the President be arranged for Ralph Harris. Reuters remains the only press association with a wide American readership that has not had such an interview. Ideally, it should precede a group exposure.

We have a number of foreign requests outstanding. A list is attached. It is, however, a disparate gaggle of publications -- some secondary, some sensational. It obviously should not form the single basis for our choices.

Those we select should be recognized, serious publications that cover regularly international affairs with some balance and objectivity. While the group must remain small for maximum personal effect, we should strike as even a note as possible on political orientation at home in order to counter plausibly the inevitable complaints we will get from those not invited to cover this major story.



With this in mind, I suggest:

Henry Brandon	London Sunday Times
*Pierre Salinger	L'Express, Paris
*Henri Pierre	Le Monde
*Adalbert de Segonzac	France Soir
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Herbert von Borch	Zueddeutsche Zeitung, Munich
Jan Reifenberg	Frankfurter Allgemeine, Frankfurt
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Hella Pick	The Guardian, London, Manchester
Yukio Matsuyama	Asahi, Tokyo

*We will have to think through the French representation. If we only include Salinger -- an American -- the Washington correspondents for leading French papers will scream. de Segonzac is acknowledged generally to be the dean of the European press corps, but he represents a paper -- France Soir -- that has been traditionally Gaullist. Thus, for balance, we should consider Le Monde because of its more independent editorial policy.

I have talked to Les Janka about this project. The NSC sees no problem with this except it takes the position that no foreign interviews of any kind should be held until after the completion of Secretary Kissinger's Mideast trip. I believe he estimates he will be gone for two to three weeks beginning today.

The NSC holds it should have the chance to comment before any date for an interview is locked in.



PUBLICATION

Stern Magazine

Der Spiegel

Bild Am Sonntag, Hamburg

Yomiuri Shimbun

L'Express

Toronto Star

Domenica del Corriere

Journal do Brasil

Bilt Redaktion

Melbourne Herald

Paris Match

Nihon Keizai Shimbun

Mainichi

DPA

The Guardian

London Sunday Times

INDIVIDUAL

Klaus Liedke

Rudolf Augstein, Publisher

Egon Freiheit

Tato Takahama

Pierre Salinger

George Bain

Dr. Luciano Simonelli

Henry Rayment

Horst Bust

Peter Costigan

Philippe de Bausset

Yoshiaki Kohzue

Kazuto Ishimaru

Hans Hoefer

Hella Pick

Henry Brandon

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 6, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN
FROM: ED SAVILLE
SUBJECT: FOREIGN EDITORS INTERVIEWS
 WITH THE PRESIDENT

The NSC holds that the President should not meet with any foreign newsmen, editors or publishers until after Secretary Kissinger completes his current Mideast tour.

Further, Janka says that the NSC should have the chance to comment on any such meetings before they are locked in.

March 4, 1975

Dear John:

I have your letter requesting a meeting with the President by your Managing Director in April.

It is not possible to say definitely that the President will be able to arrange this appointment. However, when I have more definite word, I will get back in touch with you.

Sincerely,

Ron Nessen
Press Secretary
to the President

Mr. John W. Heffernan
Reuters Limited
615 National Press Building
Washington, D. C. 20045

RN:jg

John W. Heffernan



March 4, 1975

Dear Fred:

I have your letter confirming our phone conversation requesting an interview between the President and the Editor of The Times.

I am afraid I cannot be very encouraging about the prospects for this interview. As you know, the President is extremely busy these days trying to push his economic and energy programs through Congress.

Should it be possible to arrange an interview while Mr. Rees-Mogg is in Washington, I will be back in touch with you.

Very truly,

Sincerely,

Ron Neessen
Press Secretary
to the President

Mr. Fred Emery
Chief Washington Correspondent
The Times
541 National Press Building
Washington, D. C. 20004

RN:jg



3
March 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

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FROM:

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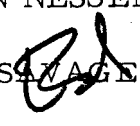
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Kazuto Ishimaru

Hans Hoefer

Hella Pick

Henry Brandon

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

VIA:

DON RUMSFELD

FROM:

RON NESSEN

Some time ago I mentioned to you a request from Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the investigative reporters of the Washington Post who developed the Watergate story, to interview you off-the-record for their forthcoming book on the last days of the Nixon Administration. They have talked to many of the personalities involved in those last days totally off-the-record and not for quotation or attribution. They would very much like to talk to you on this same basis to learn of your memories of those days. In the book none of what you tell them would be attributed to you by name.

The initial decision you made on this was not to do it.

Woodward and Bernstein are coming in to see me on Saturday to informally give me a progress report, at their request, on what they have learned in their research. They have already indicated to me that they have learned nothing which casts any doubt on your role in those last days as it has already been publicly reported.

I am not urging you to reconsider your earlier decision not to talk to Woodward and Bernstein, but their visit to me on Saturday gives you an opportunity to review these options.

I don't want to see Woodward and Bernstein.

You can bring them in for a short courtesy call while they are here on Saturday, but no interview.

You can bring them in to see me when they are here Saturday and I will answer their questions off-the-record for 30 minutes.

I will do an off-the-record interview with Woodward and Bernstein but at a later date, not this Saturday.

March 13, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DON RUMSFELD

FROM: RON NESSEN

When you have a chance to read yesterday's Nessen news briefing, I think you will notice some changes in tone, duration, and "pickiness". I tried to accomplish this by being more firm in what I did and did not answer.

I would like to know what you think of the change.

RN/cg



March 14, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DON RUMSFELD

FROM:

RON NESSEN

The other night at the Radio-TV Correspondents Dinner Robert Strauss, the Democratic National Chairman, asked me privately to pass along to the President his desire to meet at the White House unannounced to discuss an informal agreement on the dates and places of the 1976 Democratic and Republican Conventions.

RN:jg



1 Runsfeld, and that is, should the CIA or any American agency
2 be involved in assassination plans involving foreign
3 leaders?

4 MR. RUNSFELD: I have been involved in the Ford Administra-
5 tion for about five months. It is certainly my impression that
6 this President feels that that is not happening during
7 his presidency and his intention is that it not happen during
8 his presidency.
9

10 MR. LISAGOR: But he did seem to indicate it has happened
11 going back to 1960, at his latest news conference, did he
12 not?

13 MR. RUNSFELD: I don't know that I would want to
14 characterize his response at the press conference.
15 You are correct, I have been involved, for example, in such
16 things as the decision to create the Rockefeller Panel and so
17 other aspects of it, but it is not a principal area of respon-
18 sibility for me.

19 MR. WILL: Mr. Runsfeld, some Republican conservatives who
20 are talking openly about either challenging the President in
21 the primaries or about a third party breakaway of conservatives
22 from the Republican party are especially unhappy about the
23 selection of Nelson Rockefeller as Vice President and about
24 some of his actions as Vice President. If a group of signif-
25 cant conservatives told Mr. Ford that the price of their



March 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DON RUMSFELD

FROM: RON NESSEN

My staff has brought to my attention the fact that the Republican National Committee has been in on the planning of some primarily non-political trips by the President, and the RNC has been releasing information about these trips, as have local Republican organizations.

The most recent example of this is the upcoming New Hampshire trip which has been publicized by New Hampshire Republicans. This kind of thing will make it difficult for us to maintain that the New Hampshire trip and others are primarily nonpolitical.

RN/cg



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March 19

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: DON RUMSFELD

FROM: RON NESSEN *RHN*

FYI



...the army as a cover, the CIA scoured military ... in function to the FBI, didn't accept Schoelch's assurances.

Nessen earns high marks for credibility

By TED KNAP

Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

RON NESSEN HAS BEEN President Ford's press secretary for nearly six months, and the credibility of both remains intact.

That may sound like faint praise. But considering what hap-

The resumption of openness is due more to Ford than to his staff; his first presidential press secretary, J.F. terHorst, was every bit as open as Nessen and had a better store of knowledge about Ford and the workings of Washington.

Unlike terHorst, who quit in protest of Ford's pardon of Nixon, Nessen says it is "irrelevant" what a press secretary

the best face on what their boss is doing. It is up to reporters to weed out what is merely self-serving.

The low point in Nessen's effectiveness came after the meeting in Vladivostok between Ford and Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev. Nessen said the press was "dazzled" by the new arms agreement and predicted Ford would "return home

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 22, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CONNOR
DICK CHENEY ✓
DICK KEISER
MILITARY AIDES OFFICE

FROM:

RON NESSEN

The Press Office staff held a long meeting to review news coverage plans for the Palm Springs and Western trip. This meeting turned up a number of potential problems which I would like to pass on to you. Some require decisions.

1) ELK HILLS - The President should consider wearing casual clothes for this stop, perhaps a windbreaker and sportshirt instead of a suit and tie. Also, a jeep-like vehicle instead of the black limousine would look better.

We are arranging press coverage of this event in such a way as to provide pictures which best demonstrate the oil potential of this otherwise desolate area and the President's interest in it. The President should have some talking points prepared so that he can make some comments before the cameras.

We will need two 33-seat helicopters to transport the press to Elk Hills. This is the only way they can get there and still cover the expected large public reception at the Bakersfield Airport. Arrangements also should be made for one network helicopter to land and take off from Elk Hills to take film to Los Angeles in time for the Saturday night news programs.

2) PALM SPRINGS - The Press Office needs, within the next few days, information on Fred Wilson, his relationship to the President, his occupation, and the rental arrangements on his house for use in response to anticipated questions at the time we announce the trip. We need similar information on arrangements for the houses to be used by Don Rumsfeld and Bob Hartmann. We also need information on Leon Parma.

We plan to delay any official announcement of the trip until at least Wednesday or until such time as the Senate-House conferees have completed action on a tax cut bill.

We plan to allow open press coverage of the President playing golf only once during this trip. That would be on Sunday afternoon for the first three holes. For the rest of the week, we plan to allow a small protective pool to follow the President to the golf course in the motorcade but this pool would be stopped at the gate of the golf course (as is the case at Burning Tree).

For the President's evening social events, we also plan to have a small protective pool in the motorcade but will keep this pool back and away from the entrance to the residences the President will visit in order to prevent the kind of doorstep news conference which occurred nearly daily at Vail. We will need the cooperation of the Secret Service and local security officers to keep the protective press pool away from the President at the golf course and on social outings.

We have no plans to allow a press inspection of the house in which the President is staying.

We plan to have press briefings while in Palm Springs, though not necessarily every day. This will require the same kind of information from the White House, Don Rumsfeld, and the President as we receive to prepare for the daily news briefing in Washington.

3) SAN DIEGO - The schedule for the San Diego day is incredibly crowded, to the point where adequate news coverage will be extremely difficult. For instance, the speech to the White House Conference comes immediately after the lunch with Governors and will not permit reporters to receive a briefing from the Governors. On previous trips, the Governors who have met with the President have briefed the press and these stories have been generally favorable.

The Press Office strongly suggests that the meeting with Governors be moved to Palm Springs earlier in the week. This has several benefits: 1) it allows for more adequate coverage of the remaining events in San Diego, namely, the news conference and the speech to the White House Conference, and 2) it will give the appearance of the President carrying on his duties early in the week in Palm Springs when otherwise there would be nothing to write about except the President playing golf.

4) SAN FRANCISCO - The current schedule calls for the President to depart from the Geothermal geysers at 2:55 p.m. (5:55 p.m. EDT) which is too late for the nightly news shows. The next day is Saturday with no morning news shows, and so if we maintain this schedule, the President's trip to the geysers will get no television coverage nationally. By departing Palm Springs 2 1/2 hours earlier than scheduled (8:50 a.m. local time), the trip to the geysers could be shown on the nightly news shows. I recommend this earlier departure.

We will need two 18-seat helicopters to transport the press to the geysers. This is the only method of transportation to get them to this inaccessible area. Arrangements also should be made for one network helicopter to land and take off from the geyser area to fly their film to San Francisco for the evening network news shows.

It is suggested that the President also wear appropriate clothes for this area, that is, windbreaker and probably boots.

Sheila Weidenfeld, I understand, is going on the trip and will handle Mrs. Ford's visit to Los Angeles without any other support from the Press Office.

I will be taking a short vacation Saturday afternoon, March 29, through Wednesday night, April 2, and Jack Hushen will act in my place during this absence.

I would appreciate receiving any comments or decisions on these matters.

cc: Jack Hushen

Some 200 years ago a great American revolutionary, Samuel Adams, spoke words that can guide us now. He said "the necessity of the times, more than ever, calls for our utmost circumspection, deliberation, fortitude and perseverance."

Those same qualities must guide us today. Our purpose must be not to point the finger of blame, but to build upon our many successes, to repair damage where we find it, to recover our balance, and to move ahead as a united people. Tonight we need some plain and candid talk about where we stand.

Indochina

A vast human tragedy has befallen our friends in Vietnam and Cambodia.

Too often we talk of commitments as if they were lifeless legal documents alone, or as if Indochina is a new decision for us. Yet, I need not recall the enormous sacrifices in blood, dedication and treasure that we made in Vietnam. Five American Presidents have engaged the United States in Indochina. Two Presidents sent 550,000

men there. Millions served, thousands died, and many more were wounded, imprisoned, or lost. Over \$150 billion were appropriated for the conduct of that war by the Congress of the United States. And after years of effort, we negotiated a settlement which made it possible for us to remove our forces with honor and bring home our prisoners, and for our South Vietnamese ally, with our material and moral support, to maintain its security and rebuild after two decades of war.

The chances for a lasting peace after our departure rested on two critical premises: First, that if necessary the United States would help sustain the terms of the Paris Accords we signed in 1973; and second, that the United States would provide adequate economic and military assistance to South Vietnam.

The North Vietnamese, from the moment they signed, systematically violated the cease-fire and other provisions of the agreement. Flagrantly disregarding the ban on infiltration of troops into the South, they increased their forces to the

unprecedented level of 350,000. In direct violation of the agreement, they sent in the most modern equipment in massive amounts. Meanwhile, they continued to receive large quantities of supplies and arms from their friends.

In the face of this situation, America -- torn as it was by the tragedies of a decade of war -- was helpless to respond. We had deprived ourselves by law of the ability to enforce the agreement -- thus giving North Vietnam assurance that it could violate that agreement with impunity. And we reduced our economic and arms aid to South Vietnam and demonstrated an increasing reluctance to give anything at all.

Encouraged by these developments, the North Vietnamese in recent months began sending even their reserve divisions into South Vietnam. Eighteen Divisions, virtually their entire army, are now in the south. The Government of Vietnam, uncertain of further American assistance, hastily ordered a strategic withdrawal into more defensible enclaves. This extremely difficult maneuver, decided upon without consultations, was badly managed, and led to panic. The results are painfully obvious and profoundly moving.

Clearly the United States is not responsible for the rapid unravelling that has taken place in recent weeks; the South Vietnamese forces have shown serious shortcomings. But our growing reluctance to provide needed assistance contributed greatly to the strategic decision which set in train the tragic developments that ensued.

In recent weeks there has been widespread debate about the legal nature of our commitment to South Vietnam. There has, equally, been a great deal of talk about the need to stop the killing at whatever price. But, ladies and gentlemen, there is one unescapable and overwhelming fact which we simply cannot ignore. Refugees by the millions are fleeing from the North Vietnamese aggressors; not remaining behind so that the war front will pass them by; not welcoming the conquerors as liberators.

What, then, should be our policy now? We could take the stand that we have given enough of our blood and treasure to an enterprise that has come close to tearing our country apart. We could argue that the killing simply must stop, no matter what the outcome, and that to continue to support the Government of South Vietnam

only perpetuates the bloodshed and compounds the human suffering.

This would be a course that honorable men could, and do, espouse. It is an appealing course in many ways, and one I have given soul searching and sympathetic consideration.

But, despite its attractions, it is not a course I can, in good conscience, endorse.

Millions of South Vietnamese fought at our sides for many years. Millions more have staked their lives on us. The plain and simple issue before us, then, is whether the nation of Patrick Henry and "Give me liberty or give me death" can now make its exit from more than a decade of involvement -- wise or unwise -- in Vietnam by withholding from those Vietnamese who still want to resist the arms they need to do so.

In Cambodia the situation is equally tragic. The United States and the Cambodian Government have each made major efforts -- over a long period and through many channels -- to end the war there. But because of their military successes, steady external support, and American legislative restrictions, the Communist side has shown no interest in negotiation, compromise, or a political solution.

And yet, for the past three months the beleaguered people of Phnom Penh have fought on, hoping against hope that the United States would not desert them, but instead provide the arms and ammunition they so badly need.

Several days ago I received a letter from the Acting President of Cambodia. It is a moving appeal, and one which I would like to share with you in part.

"Dear Mr. President," he wrote. "As the American Congress reconvenes to reconsider your urgent request for supplemental assistance for the Khmer Republic, I appeal to you to convey to the American legislators our plea not to deny these vital resources to us, if a non-military solution is to emerge from this tragic 5 year old conflict."

"To find a peaceful end to the conflict we need time. I do not know how much time, but we all fully realize that the agony of the Khmer people cannot and must not go on much longer. However, for the immediate future, we need the rice to feed the hungry and the ammunition and weapons to defend ourselves against those who want to impose their will by force of arms. A denial by the American people of the means for us to carry on will leave us no alternative but inevitably abandoning our

search for a solution which will give our citizens some freedom of choice as to their future. For a number of years now the Cambodian people have placed their trust in America. I cannot believe that this confidence was misplaced and that suddenly America will deny us the means which might give us a chance to find an acceptable solution to our conflict."

My colleagues in the Congress, as your President, I will not turn my back on the pain and anguish of Indochina; as an American I cannot. I intend to do everything in my power to honor the moral obligation I believe we have as a nation to the people of Vietnam and Cambodia. I ask that you join me in that enterprise.

I have looked carefully at the options before us. I have consulted with my advisers and listened carefully to General Weyand's thoughtful report of his recent mission to Vietnam. After days of reflection, I recommend the following to the Congress:

With respect to Vietnam, I call upon Hanoi -- and ask the Congress to join me in this call -- to cease military operations immediately and to honor the terms of the cease-fire agreement. The United States is urgently requesting the signatories of the Paris Conference to meet their obligation to use their

influence to halt the fighting and enforce the 1973 Accords. Diplomatic notes to this effect are being sent to all members of the Paris Conference, including the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China.

General Weyand, in his report, has recommended that we provide the Republic of South Vietnam with \$722 million in military assistance by May 1 of this year in order to assist in stabilizing the military situation. I endorse that recommendation, and ask that the Congress appropriate the funds urgently. This appropriation will give us time to consider together with the Congress the longer-term nature of our military relationship with South Vietnam.

Fundamental decency requires that we do everything in our power to ease the misery and pain of the monumental human crisis which has befallen the people of Vietnam. Millions have fled in the face of the Communist onslaught and are now homeless and destitute. I hereby pledge in the name of the American people that the United States will make a maximum humanitarian effort to help care for and feed them. In earnest of this pledge, I ask that the Congress at this time appropriate \$___ million for emergency humanitarian aid.

And finally, if despite our best efforts and those of our South Vietnamese friends, the Communist onslaught cannot be stopped, what then? I believe that it will, under those circumstances, be our obligation to remove as many Vietnamese as possible before the holocaust of retribution and revenge is visited upon them. I therefore ask that the Congress now authorize the use of United States military personnel, using force if necessary, to effect the evacuation of Vietnamese citizens from their country should this prove necessary.

I would hope that this authority need never be used, but we would be rightly condemned if it should later prove necessary and be unavailable.

As to Cambodia, I ask that the Congress grant, within a week, our current request for supplemental assistance. This amount, \$___ million, plus a lifting of the current ceilings on military and economic assistance, will provide the Cambodian people with the ammunition, weapons, and humanitarian assistance necessary to continue their brave resistance. Failure to appropriate this money will surely mean that we, by our own actions, have destroyed any chance of a negotiated settlement and doomed those who stood by us.

Members of the Congress, my fellow Americans, this is a moment of tragedy for us and for Indochina. But it is also a time for resolve. Let us put behind us the bitter divisions which have torn our country for so long. Let us put an end to the search for scapegoats and the divisiveness of recrimination. There is more than enough responsibility for all to share -- legislative and executive -- for what has happened in Indochina.

The test of a people is how it reacts to adversity and how well it learns from past mistakes. So let us draw wisdom from our travail and put an end to self-inflicted wounds. Let us remember that our national unity is our most priceless asset. A great challenge awaits us. We must face it as Americans and as human beings, not as partisans.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN

FROM: DON RUMSFELD

SUBJECT: Some Thoughts

Some Press reports of yesterday's briefing must have left the American people confused on this matter.

The issue was: "were there secret commitments made?"

I know of none. The President knows of none. The Secretary of State, who was intimately involved, asserts knowledgeably that there was none. *What more can one ask? (could be more clear?)*

There were, of course, numerous communications between officials of the two governments, which were properly private.

But, as I stated yesterday, the public statements made at the time accurately reflected the substance of those communications.

Further, the action by the Congress in 1973, which would have prohibited compliance with any ~~secret agreements~~ *agreements*, was signed by the former President without raising any such problems.

The thrust of some of the ~~stories~~ *stories* was that there were in fact "secret deals."

Now say there were an

I said no such thing. I know of no such commitments or deals. And leaving that impression on an issue of this importance and

we looked thru all the files. None. The answer was "no".

That per very ans.

14 war. force reiled 1. The person from whom dump the debate

intervention

assurance of U.S. military

emotion is unfortunate.

Dillon of the fact *pruik*
~~Publicizing the fact~~ that there were "confidential," "secret,"
 or "classified" communications, which there of course were
 and are almost every month with almost every nation in the
 world ~~in a way that suggests~~ *people will not* that they contain ~~some U.S.~~ *anything*
~~commitment that was~~ other than that which ~~was~~ *has* being
 publicly stated by the previous Administration, ~~leaves the~~
 public with an impression of what I said, which is not
 accurate.

The questions at issue is: "Were there secret commitments made?"

The President knows of none. The Secretary of State, who was intimately involved in the negotiations, asserts knowledgeably that there was none. General Haig has issued a statement saying there was none. We have looked through the files and find none. Former President Nixon never said there were any. The matter of secret commitments was never raised by the previous administration during Congressional debate. I never said there were "secret agreements." I know of no such commitments or agreements.

There were, of course, numerous communications between officials of the two governments, which were properly private.

But as I have stated clearly and repeatedly, the public statements made at the time reflected the substance of those private communications.

Further, Former President Nixon never raised this issue when he signed into law, in 1973, a statute which would have prohibited compliance - if there had been any commitment for U.S. military intervention.

A mistaken impression on an issue of this importance and emotion may have been communicated to the American people and that is unfortunate.



Merely stating that there were private communications -- which, of course, go on all the time with every nation in the world -- should not in any way suggest that those communications contained secret agreements. Private communications with Saigon contained, in substance, the same assurances which were stated publicly.



April 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR

DONALD RUMSFELD

FROM

RON NESSEN

SUBJECT

ARTICLE BY MARY McGRORY

I suppose I crowed so much about Jehanle Apple's article about the use of the Bicentennial by the President to unite the country that I should in all fairness call this article by Mary McGrory to your attention, giving an opposite view.

I have not shown this to the President.



THE WASHINGTON STAR
April 21, 1975

Mary McGrory

Bicentennial May Survive Ford's 'Vision'

By Mary McGrory

Washington Star Staff Writer

BOSTON—The good news from Massachusetts is that the Bicentenni-

The Rev. Robert Gollidge, the vicar, spoke several hundred words to Ford's thousands. But his soared to the lovely arched ceiling. They rose with the lanterns that were being carried to the steeple by descendants of Robert Newman, the sexton who gave the signal, which the Vicar said, "sent Paul Revere on his ride through Middlesex to the birth of our republic."

"Those two lanterns which once shone from this steeple led us to two centuries of some progress in reason, in liberty, and in faith — but not

Point of View

April 22, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DON RUMSEELD

FROM: RON NESSEN

Concerning the New York Daily News request for an interview, they and several dozen other newspapers, columnists, and broadcasters, have pending requests for interviews.

We have no particular order in which these interviews are granted, although we have been making an effort to give interviews to the most prominent outlets among newspapers, magazines, and broadcasters. I can, if you wish, propose the New York Daily News for the next interview with the President.

RN/cg



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR ~~RON~~ NESSEN
JIM CONNOR

FROM: DONALD RUMSFELD

Mr. Healy, I believe of the New York Daily News, indicated the other day that when Jerry Green of the News talked to the President on the phone when he returned, they discussed a long-standing request by the News to interview the President. They would like to do that. It would be the three of them -- I believe Newhart, Green and Healy. Could you give me a report on the status of that. Maybe someone ought to get back to them.

APR 22 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 28, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB HARTMANN
JACK MARSH
DON RUMSFELD

FROM:

RON NESSEN

Lou Cannon told me after my briefing today that someone tried to peddle to the Washington Post last week the story that the President has decided not to run for election. The Post did not go for the story. Cannon would not say who tried to peddle the story.

On a possibly related matter, Sarah McClendon of the El Paso Times, tells me that somebody tried to sell her the story that the President is canceling all of his major engagements in the early Fall because Mrs. Ford is fatally ill and he wants to spend as much time with her as he possibly can.

Somebody is playing the game rough in this town.