

The original documents are located in Box 27, folder “Nixon - Ford Cabinet Meeting Statement, 8/06/1974” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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11/17/74

Material requested
by Mr. Buchen

for delivery to the President

Cabinet mtg 8/16/74

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original

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Memo to the record:

Attached is an approximate translation of the stenographic notes attached to the copies of Ford's speaking points for the 8/6/74 Cabinet meeting. The translation was done by Susan Bos, daughter of Ford Library staff member Ilse Bos. The notes apparently concern the handling of the original and copies which were highly confidential. It is probable that these copies were made in preparation for Ford's appearance before the Hungate subcommittee in October 1974.

Bill McFitt
4/7/81



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→ VP

→ m. v. 8/6
→ cabinet meeting of 8/6

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duplicate of the | this
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Attaching to a duplicat

Cabinet meeting
6 Aug '74

GENTLEMEN,

AT THE OUTSET I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SEVERAL POINTS.

FIRST, EVERYONE HERE RECOGNIZES THE DIFFICULT POSITION
I AM IN, I AM A PARTY IN INTEREST.

SECOND, NO ONE REGRETS MORE THAN I DO THIS WHOLE
TRAGIC EPISODE. I HAVE DEEP PERSONAL SYMPATHY FOR YOU
MR. PRESIDENT, AND YOUR FINE FAMILY.

THIRD, I WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT HAD I KNOWN AND HAD
IT BEEN DISCLOSED TO ME WHAT HAS BEEN DISCLOSED IN REFERENCE
TO THE WATERGATE AFFAIR IN THE LAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, I
WOULD NOT HAVE MADE A NUMBER OF THE STATEMENTS THAT I HAVE
MADE, EITHER AS MINORITY LEADER OR AS VICE PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES.

FOURTH, I DO NOT EXPECT TO MAKE ANY RECOMMENDATION
TODAY TO THE PRESIDENT AS TO WHAT HE SHOULD DO AND NEITHER
DO I EXPECT TO MAKE ANY SUCH RECOMMENDATION TO ANY OF THE
OTHERS AT THIS MEETING.



(MORE)

FIFTH, WHETHER THE FULL DISCLOSURES WILL MEET THE
CONSTITUTIONAL DEFINITION OF AN IMPEACHABLE OFFENSE IS A
MATTER THAT CAN ONLY BE FINALLY RESOLVED BY THE UNITED STATES
SENATE IN A PROCEEDING AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CONSTITUTION.

FINALLY, LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT I EXPECT TO CONTINUE
TO SUPPORT FULLY THE ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICY AND
FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION.



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6 Aug '74

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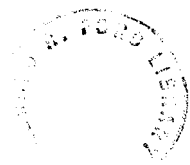
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GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

HIGH PRIORITY

August 6, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE VICE PRESIDENT

Attached is a copy of the briefing
paper and talking points for the
Cabinet Meeting at 11:00 a.m. today.



David N. Parker
Special Assistant to the President



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CABINET MEETING
Tuesday, August 6, 1974
11:00 a.m. (60 minutes)
The Cabinet Room

From: David ^{LAD} N. Parker

I. PURPOSE

To brief the Cabinet on the latest developments and your decisions related to impeachment and to hear brief status report from Ken Rush on the economic situation.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

- A. Background: The last Cabinet Meeting was held on July 11th to review what the Administration is doing to curb inflation.
- B. Participants: List attached at Tab B.
- C. Press Plan: Meeting has been announced -- press photo opportunity.

III. AGENDA

- A. Tell the Cabinet the reasons for your recent decisions related to the current impeachment effort (Talking Points at Tab A).
- B. Express your belief that the Constitutional process in an impeachment effort has to be followed and that the Cabinet must continue to move this Government forward during the difficult period ahead.
- C. Since we are going to stay, we have to continue to tend to the business at hand; therefore, Ken Rush, would you give us a few comments on where we are going on the economic front.
- D. Ask the Cabinet to push ahead on their legislative programs and remind them that we will have a session within the next couple of weeks to discuss the 1975 initiatives.



(Khachigian)

August 5, 1974

TALKING POINTS -- CABINET MEETING, AUGUST 6, 1974

-- I just want to talk for a few minutes about the decision I announced yesterday, and then I want to go to Ken Rush because I want all of you to be aware of our movement on the economic front.

-- Within the past decade, two of my political adversaries left the Presidency. Jack Kennedy was so tragically killed, and Lyndon Johnson, with all his great pride, was literally hounded from office. I believe deeply and profoundly that the institution of this office must not sustain -- without a defense -- yet another hammer blow.

-- You must all understand that I cannot now resign because the constitutional course must be adhered to. To circumvent that route and to desert the principles which give our government legitimacy would be a regrettable departure from American historical principles.

-- By choosing to pursue this constitutionally prescribed course I believe I have chosen the course which is in the best interests of the Nation. Each time I have entered into diplomatic negotiations, I have done so with an eye towards the generations which follow us. History sometimes demands of us dimensions that we don't always appreciate in the short-term. But to ignore those



dimensions is to invite permanent injury in the avoidance of temporary sacrifices.

-- I defend the total context of my actions because that is my human instinct. But I defend them, more importantly, because I am only a visitor in a revered institution of our democracy. To believe this, as I do, permits no other direction to take.

-- These will be difficult times. They will be times of testing. There will be diversions. But let us proceed with our work. And let us not be ashamed of the great goals for which we aim -- a world at peace, a country in prosperity and at work, and a sense of steady determination to do the right thing. I urge you to continue your efforts to serve this government with the same sacrifice, energy and ability you have contributed each day. I need you, and each of your fellow citizens need you.

-- In a quarter of a century of public service, I have seen America in two wars. I have seen crises in Berlin and Cuba; the Mideast and South America. I have seen a cold war which drained our energies and invited confrontation. I have seen our Nation torn by social change and civil disruption. We came here to do something about our



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Secretary Simon
Secretary Schlesinger
Attorney General Saxbe
Secretary Morton
Secretary Butz
Secretary Dent
Secretary Brennan
Secretary Weinberger
Secretary Lynn
Secretary Brinegar
Director Ash
Ambassador Scali
Counsellor Burch
Counsellor Rush

Absent

Counsellor Armstrong

Others

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Herbert Stein, CEA
Kenneth Cole, Domestic Council

Staff

Alexander Haig
William Timmons
Ronald Ziegler
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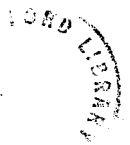


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