

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.

