Conversation 717-10 NARA Tape Log

The following tape log was prepared by the National Archives and Records Administration:

Conversation No. 717-10
Date: May 2, 1972
Time: 11:19-11:40 am
Location: Oval Office

The President met with Ronald L. Ziegler.

J. Edgar Hoover
  - President's call to Lyndon B. Johnson
  - Richard G. Kleindienst
  - Death
    - Announcement
      - Timing
      - Notification of President

H. R. (“Bob”) Haldeman entered at 11:24 am.

  - President's statement
    - Wire stories
  - Criticism
  - President's statement
    - Written statement
    - Oral statement
    - Publicity
  - Family
    - Instructions
    - Family
    - Arlington National Cemetery
      - President's orders
        - John D. Ehrlichman
      - Kennedys
        - Robert F. Kennedy
      - Parents
        - Possible relocation
  - Memorial service
    - Clyde A. Tolson
  - Ceremonies
    - The President’s view
  - Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI]
  - Capitol Hill
Alexander P. Butterfield entered at an unknown time before 11:25 am.

  Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
  -Telephone call

Butterfield and Ziegler left at 11:25 am.

An unknown person talked with the President at 11:26 am.

[Conversation No. 717-10A]

  President's Schedule
    -Haig

[End of telephone conversation]

Hoover
  -Memorial service
    -Public response
      -Place
        -Congress
        -Arlington National Cemetery
          -Amphitheater
        -Tolson
          -Call from Haldeman
        -Charles W. Colson
          -Meeting with President
            -Cancellation
            -President's meeting with delegation from the Rebild National Park Society of Denmark
      -Memorial service
        -Place
          -Arlington National Cemetery

Haig entered at 11:27 am.

Haldeman left at 11:27 am.
Vietnam
- Meeting with North Vietnamese
  - Message from Henry A. Kissinger
  - Value
- North Vietnamese offensive
- Negotiations
  - North Vietnamese positions
    - Troop withdrawal date
  - Nguyen Van Thieu overthrow
  - South Vietnamese notification
    - Ellsworth F. Bunker
    - Thieu
- William J. Porter
  - Forthcoming walkout at plenary session
- Private meeting announcement
- Public expectations
- Kissinger's statement
- Kissinger
  - Return to US
- Soviets
  - Position
    - The President’s view
    - Haig’s view
- Negotiations
  - North Vietnamese posture
- Soviet Summit
  - Soviet reaction to strikes
- US military action
  - Blockade
    - Soviet Summit
      - Possible cancellation
        - Air strikes
      - Haig’s view
    - Bombing
      - Haiphong
        - Closing of port
        - Soviet ships
      - Haiphong
        - Mining
          - South Vietnamese
- Soviets
  - Possible assistance to US
  - Incentive
  - Strategic Arms Limitation Talks [SALT] announcement
  - Reaction to bombing
-Kissinger's assessment
-Risks to Summit
-B-52 strikes
-Adm. Thomas H. Moorer
-[David] Kenneth Rush
-Plans
-Time
-Extent
-Air strikes
-Carriers
-Extent
-Impact on North Vietnam
-Stories

BEGIN WITHDRAWN ITEM NO. 1
[National Security]
[Duration: 13s]

INTELLIGENCE

-Military situation
-President's public relations advisors
-Colson, John A. Scali, Ziegler
-Negotiations
-John D. Erhlichman’s view
-Negotiations
-News reports
-Marvin L. Kalb
-Kissinger on coalition government
-Kissinger's position
-Press reports
-Sources
-Peace groups
-Press
-State Department
-Divisions within Administration
-Lyndon B. Johnson's Administration
-Clark M. Clifford

-President's position
-Note to Thieu
-Delivery
-US support
Ziegler entered at 11:38 am.

Meeting with President

Vietnam
- President's note to Thieu
- North Vietnamese invasion
- Course of battle
  - Spirit of South Vietnamese
- Thieu's leadership
- US support
- Delivery
- Coalition government
- State Department statement
  - Press reports
  - Denials
  - Gerald L. Warren

Haig and Ziegler left at 11:40 am.