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TELCON (San Clemente)
President/Kissinger
July 4, 1973 - 11:00 a.m.

K: Hello.

P: Henry.

K: Mr. President.

P: I want you to take the Fourth off now so . . . I just looked over the news thing, nothing new here. It's relatively quiet. The Latin Americans are having there usual - you know I think that Chilean guy may have some problems.

K: Oh, he has massive problems. He has definitely massive problems.

P: If only the Army could get a few people behind them.

K: And that coup last week - we had nothing to do with it but still it came off apparently prematurely.

P: That's right and the fact that he just set up a Cabinet without any military in it is, I think, very significant.

K: It's very significant.

P: Very significant because those military guys are very proud down there and they just may - right?

K: Yes, I think he's definitely in difficulties.

P: Well, we won't have to send the ITT down to help, will we?

K: (Laughs) That's another one of these absurdities. Because whenever the ITT came to us we turned them off. I mean we never did anything for them.

P: I never even knew they came.

K: They came once because Flanagan had set it up. You didn't know it. I didn't tell you because it required no action and I listened to them and said "Thank you very much" and that was that.

P: Frankly you know we left it to Helms and he and the Ambassador and so forth, they screwed it up.

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E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5
NWD 04-01/7 per Sec. 3.3(b)(1)(b) 14r. 6 Mar 05 [p. 1 of 3]
DATE 25 OCT 07

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2

K: Exactly. It's the Ambassador who screwed it up.

P: You remember.

K: OH yes, you remember, [REDACTED]

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P: That's a disaster.

K: So it didn't do any good. [REDACTED]

P: Right. Did you enjoy your visit to LA last night?

K: No, I went up, I saw the opening of Gigi. The music is very nice but the play isn't nearly as good as the movie was.

P: Well, of course, the movie was one of the great movies.

K: Exactly and so it suffers by comparison. Now the Chinese are leaking out that I'm coming and that I'm going to be discussing the Cambodian thing from which I conclude that they must have a certain amount of confidence that it's going to work because they wouldn't want to get their prestige

P: Sure they're leaking it out rather than somebody like Mansfield.

K: No, it's coming out of Peking and it says highly qualified diplomatic sources. And Bruce sent me a cable yesterday saying that Chou Kuan Hua you remember that fellow - has been saying it all over town.

P: Good. Good. Well, that's fine. They'll probably give those Senators and Congressmen an earful when they're there. You know I hate to send those babes in the woods over there, don't you?

K: Yeh, but the Chinese are not eager to embarrass us right now.

P: No, no, I know that but I'm just afraid they'll embarrass the Chinese.

K: This is a pretty good group that's going.

P: It's a good group, a good group, but I mean minor leaguers.

K: Oh no, they're not in the league with the Chinese.

P: Yeh, they just don't know their

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[NWD 04-01/7:2]

- K: Mansfield is in Paris and he's been asking for briefings which are designed to illicit that we don't need so many forces over there.
- P: In Europe?
- K: Yeh. That's going to be his next thing.
- P: We can hang tough on the MBFR.
- K: Oh yeh, absolutely.
- P: We'll have to beat him.
- K: Absolutely. I think once we can get back to fighting substantive issues we'll gain the upper hand.
- P: That's right. That's right. Well, we'd better. We've got the month of July and thank God the month of August is going to be relatively quiet. You'll be gone.
- K: I'll be gone just a week at most.
- P: But the Congress'll be gone.
- K: Right.
- P: We can then do some things on our own.
- K: Exactly.
- P: Approximately when do you figure the European thing starts to come off. When do we have to put for sake of planning?
- K: I would think for the end of October.
- P: End of October. That's plenty soon enough. We've got a lot of work to do.
- K: Yeh, exactly. There's a helluva lot of work to do.
- P: Incidentally, if the Latin thing comes up we're just going to have to push that until early 1974. I just can't
- K: Well, Mr. President, I have yet to see a mission to Latin America that didn't cause more trouble than it was worth.
- P: That's right.

[NLN 04-01/7:3]