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TELCON

Lloyd Scherer
Sec. Kissinger
November 7, 1975
12:15 p.m.

RELEASE IN FULL

K; Lloyd.

S: How are you?

K: You are better at writing questions than answering them.

S: All I can say I just ask questions about Dr. Kissinger and someone said are you a virgin and his reply was not yet. The other one I wanted was somebody said you were trying to pick up a girl in a bar and the girl said I want you to know that I am a lesbian and you said that's o.k. How are things in Beirut.

K: You are going to print both of those.

S: No. I had words from Abe Stein about your role in the Sunday morning Massacre. It was implied that it was almost impossible to get to you.

K: I did it all by myself. I wanted to put my chief competitors in key posts.

S: I think Reston's analysis of the other day was verbatim from Kissinger.

K: Not true; I have not talked to anybody.

S: Like every body else we not only get the G-D mail but since we have 11 newspapers all these people you talk to on editorial boards have called. They think we have more information than they. I said that was ridiculous. Everyone feels it was a grand design by Kissinger and by himself.

K: Of course, Rumsfeld is such a tool of mine.

S: I know that's not so. Henry, it seems strange that Colby who had been in Government for 30 years and Schlesinger who had been around 6 or 7 should be called in Sunday morning and without any notification he was told the jig was up. That seems kind of cheap, shabby, mean and very much unlike the President.

K: And why would it serve any purpose of mine.

S: The reason was that Schlseinger was not a great admirer of your.

K: Neither is Rumsfeld.



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S: And I don't know about that. Rummy is far more cautious in opining about you than Schlesinger was. I don't know that that holds water. Just thought I would try and get a word from you since we are really being inundated. I would guess most of these replies...

K: Look, you are going to write what you want anyway and I am not talking about this subject.

S: That is fair enough. I honor that and I respect that.

K: As a friend I can tell you on deep background this was not my design.

S: Can you as an old friend tell me what the purpose was.

K: It is not fully clear to me.

S: If it is not clear to you, God almighty and you are clairvoyant.

K: Maybe the President just didn't get along with Schlesinger.

S: Why would he get rid of Colby when obviously there was no replacement. Bush is the single worst replacement of Colby I can think of.

K: With Colby I did not even have disagreements.

S: What would be your reading of that Henry.

K: That he wanted to do everything together.

S: Yes, but for what purpose.

Obviously, it was a mistake because he realized he should let Colby run out the skein. He has been asked to stay until he gets the Church Committee out of the way and Bush here. And Walters will say.

K: I really am not sure.

S: I just don't want to be in position of writing without...

K: Why don't you call Walters. I don't know how long Walters is going to stay.

S: My understanding is that Walters wanted out and that Colby prevailed on him to stay as long as he did.



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K: Oh, well that is probably true.

S: That I think is the kind of gentlemanly behavior in exchange for someone -- I remember Colby in OSS in WW II. I just don't think you fire people this quickly and perfunctly. I was in London maybe 10 days ago and had breakfast with Richardson and Elliot said to me that under no circumstances would he accept Directorship of CIA. Had it been offered to him?

K: Not to the best of my knowledge.

S: Would you think he would be more qualified than Bush.

K: I just cannot go into that.

S: Right.

Are you going to go to China with the President?

K: I have every intention.

S: When would that be?

K: When scheduled, at the end of the month.

S: Is that still on.

K: It seems to still be on.

S: Maybe we can talk on the plane.

K: Let's talk then. Don't want to talk on the phone on this.

S: I just/want ^{did not} to be in the position of having written something without checking with you.

K: You know you have not been super friendly in Parade lately.

S: We have not been able to get you. We have called 20-30 times. This is the first time you have called back.

K: Did you call me or Anderson.

S: They say they call you and that they will get the word to you.

K: Honestly, this is the first time that I realized that you had called. Call on 632-9630. That is my office number.

S: We have a record of 30 calls to you.



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K: You must have called the press office.

S: I don't know what the girl has called.

K: This is the first one that got on my telephone list.

S: Yea. I have to go to Washington but you are so G-D busy.

K: If there is one thing we did not need at this moment it is turmoil in the foreign policy.

S: I certainly agree with you and I don't understand why we had it.

K: That is a different matter. I am telling you there is no reason for me to initiate it.

S: No, I d-n't think so.

K: Read the Washington Star yesterday. They have a day by day account which is not bad. Not totally accurate but not bad.

S: I tell you there is a great diversion of analysis.

K: They have a day by day account and it has the added virtue that I did not talk to the Star or anyone from my office.

:S: I will get that. Schlesinger and your versions are naturally two different versions.

K: I don't know. Does he say that I did it?

S: I will get the Star.

K: I don't believe that Schlesinger is saying that I did it.

S: I will get the Star and read that analysis if you think it is terribly valid.

K: It is about 80 percent accurate.

S: Right. How is your health.

K: Fine.

S: How is my son-in-law.

K: He is a great guy. He was in China with me.

S: Is he any good?



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K: Excellent. A decent guy. You don't deserve a decent son-in-law.

S: You have wrapped him around your thumb. He swears by you. You are the kind of guy he would work for. That shows you the kind of mesmerization you have.

K: I have not succeeded with the father-in-law.

S: But you have with the mother-in-law