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[The President and the Secretary of State discuss the impending United Nations vote on the “Important Question”: whether or not Taiwan can hold a seat in the UN]

William P. Rogers: But I think we’ve got to get Turkey. If we could get Turkey and Argentina—

Nixon: Now, uh, what is – how to we work on Argentina? Lodge, I suppose? [U.S. Ambassador to Buenos Aires Henry Cabot Lodge]

Rogers: Well, I think there again that a message from you to their president . . . I think he leans in our direction; their foreign minister, he leans the other way.

Nixon: In other words, use the oral message technique.

Rogers: That’s right, that’s right.

Nixon: Mm-hmm.

Rogers: Both to Argentina and Italy. Mexico is also troublesome.

Nixon: But I would . . . Yeah, I suppose they’d be tough though, huh?

Rogers: Well, damn it, the President is a nice fellow!

Nixon: Yes.

Rogers: I had a long talk with him in front of his foreign minister [Emilio Rabasa] and his foreign minister is sort of an insipid little guy

Nixon: Yeah.

Rogers: . . .and I must say that I came out way ahead. The President was quite impressed and went out of his way to say, “You know, I really didn’t have a clear understanding of it before,” and so forth. I think I’ve got him on our side in terms of not voting against us. I think they may abstain, but we need their vote on this Important Question. That’s the key vote, of course. And right at the moment. . .

Nixon: What is the date of the vote now, do you anticipate?

Rogers: I think it's going to be about the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Nixon: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

Rogers: So we've got a little time. But it's almost too—

Nixon: Yeah. Never much! Never enough, never enough is there?

[Conversation concludes with discussion of scheduling]