

Date: 10/3/96

**Processing Note**

The following transcripts were interfiled on this date in the Chron transcript series.

DATE: 1/13/64

TIME: 10:30 pm and 10:45 pm

CALLER: Secretary McNamara and General O'Meara

PAGES: 10

TRANSCRIPT NUMBERS: 1712 AND 1713

COMMENT: Transcripts and backup material only; no recordings were found

The 10:45 pm transcript is security classified and has been withdrawn from the open file.

Irene Parra  
Archives Specialist

1712-1713

Jan. 13, 1964

Note: These conversations are very likely  
"Secret" information ...but I do not have a  
classification for ~~this~~ them.

Mr. Bromley Smith has the two originals....

yb

11:30p

SERVICE SET

January 13, 1964  
10:30 p.m.

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN SECRETARY McNAMARA AND  
GENERAL O'MEARA

.....  
McN Andy, give the substance of the message that is there to President Chiari... use two channels.  
Will you tell Valerino that he can count on our help in the event the Communists endeavor to take over control of the government?  
Will you, in the event that you received no request from Valerino or Chiari for help -- in the event of an alledged Communist takeover, immediately contact me -- at any hour, tonight?  
... In the event of no request, but in the event of an alledged coup, immediately contact me anytime tonight..  
... That's why we want to cover all of these various contingencies...  
... In the event you have already told Valerino...  
In the event that Valerino subsequently requests assistance to deter a Communist coup or prevent a Communist coup --- you will grant the assistance and immediately call and inform us of the situation.  
O'M O.K. In the event Valerino requests ... we will.  
McN Hang on just a second, Andy.  
Andy?  
O'M Right  
McN To go back over the previous instructions, relating to a Communist coup you will tell Valerino that in the event of a Communist coup he can count on our assistance to prevent it.  
O'M Right.  
McN In the event that he subsequently calls on you for such assistance alledging a Communist coup -- you will grant such assistance if you have reason to believe based on your knowledge of the situation that it is a Communist coup -- and simultaneously with granting the assistance you will immediately call us and tell us that you're doing so. In the event you have any doubt as to whether it s a Communist coup for which he is requesting assistance to prevent, you will call us and exchange views on the matter.  
O'M Before granting it?  
McN Right. Hang on just a second. .... Andy.. there is one other situation we should cover -- it is a little complicated. It is this; in the event that Chiari calls you for assistance to prevent a Communist coup, first, try to contact Valerino and get his view as to whether it is or is not a Communist coup. Secondly, you may not be able to maintain or quickly obtain contact with Valerino unless you set up some arrangements ahead to maintain close

-2-

contact with him and you should therefore do that.

O'M I have that.

McN Thirdly, in the event you have any doubt as to whether it is or is not a Communist coup or in the event that Chiari and Valerino appear to be in conflict one with the other, call up here immediately.

O'M O. K.

McN Now, do you have any questions covering any of these contingencies?

O'M No...let's see, the last one is in case of doubt...

McN Call..or in case of apparent conflict between Valerino and Chiari

O'M O. K. I've got that now. Conflict.

McN And don't hesitate to call at any time of the night.

O'M Right

McN And we'll confirm this in cable but don't wait for the cable in order to act.

O'M O. K. I'll get moving at once.

McN Very good, thanks a lot.

SERVICE SET

*First part*

*McN: Give the substance of the message that is there to  
 from Chiari*

McN

Use two channels....

Will you tell Valerino that he can count on our help in the event the Communists endeavor to take over control of the government?

Will you, in the event that you received no request from Valerino or Chiari for help -- in the event of an alledged Communist takeover, immediately contact me... at any hour, tonight.

In the event of no request, but in the event of an alledged coup, immediately contact me anytime tonight...

That's why we want to cover all of these various contingencies...

In the event you have already told Valerino...

In the event that Valerino subsequently requests assistance to deter a Communist coup or prevent a Communist coup....

Andy, to go back over the previous instructions relating to a Communist coup, you will tell Valerino that in the event of a Communist coup he can count on our assistance to prevent it.

*Retyped*

January 13, 1964

10:30p

2d part

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN SECRETARY McNAMARA AND  
GENERAL O'MEARA

McN: In the event that Valerino subsequently requests assistance to deter a Communist coup or prevent a Communist coup... you will grant the assistance and immediately call and inform us of the situation.

O'M O.K. In the event Valerino requests... we will...

McN Hang on just a second, Andy.

McN Andy?

O'M Right

McN To go back over the previous instructions... relating to a Communist coup you will tell Valerino that in the event of a Communist coup he can count on our assistance to prevent it.

O'M Right.

McN In the event that he subsequently calls on you for such assistance alleging a Communist coup... you will grant such assistance if you have reason to believe based on your knowledge of the situation that it is a Communist coup... and simultaneously with granting the assistance you will immediately call us and tell us that you're doing so. In the event you have any doubt as to whether it is a Communist coup for which he is requesting assistance to prevent, you will call us and exchange views on the matter.

O'M Before granting it?

McN Right. Hang on just a second. Andy? There is one other situation we should cover.... It is a little complicated. It is this; in the event that Chiari calls you for assistance to prevent a Communist coup, first try to contact Valerino and get his view as to whether it is or is not a Communist coup... secondly, you may not be able to maintain or quickly obtain contact with Valerino unless you set up some arrangements ahead to maintain close contact with him and you should therefore do that.

O'M I have that.

McN Thirdly, in the event you have any doubt as to whether it is or is not a Communist coup or in the event that Chiari and Valerino appear to be in conflict one with the other, call up here immediately.

O'M O.K.

McN Now do you have any questions covering any of these contingencies?

O'M No... let's see the last one is in case of doubt..

McN Call... or in case of apparent conflict between Valerino and Chiari

O'M O.K. I've got that now. Conflict..

McN And don't hesitate to call at any time of the night

O'M Right.

McN And we'll confirm this ~~in cable but don't wait for the cable in order to act.~~

Very good, thanks a lot.

O'M O.K., I'll get moving at once.

January 13, 1964

10:30p

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN SECRETARY McNAMARA AND  
GENERAL O'MEARA

McN: In the event that Valerino subsequently requests assistance to deter a Communist coup or prevent a Communist coup... you will grant the assistance and immediately call and inform us of the situation.

O'M  
McN O.K. In the event Valerino requests... we will...  
Hang on just a second, Andy.

McN Andy?  
O'M Right  
McN To go back over the previous instructions... relating to a Communist coup you will tell Valerino that in the event of a Communist coup he can count on our assistance to prevent it.

O'M Right.  
McN In the event that he subsequently calls on you for such assistance alledging a Communist coup... you will grant such assistance if you have reason to believe based on your knowledge of the situation that it is a Communist coup... and simultaneously with granting the assistance you will immediately call us and tell us that you're doing so. In the event you have any doubt as to whether it is a Communist coup for which he is requesting assistance to prevent, you will call us and exchange views on the matter.

O'M Before granting it?  
McN Right. Hang on just a second. Andy? There is one other situation we should cover.... it is a little complicated. It is this; in the event that Chiari calls you for assistance to prevent a Communist coup, first try to contact Valerino and get his view as to whether it is or is not a Communist coup... secondly, you may not be able to maintain or quickly obtain contact with Valerino unless you set up some arrangements ahead to maintain close contact with him and you should therefore do that.

O'M I have that.  
McN Thirdly, in the event you have any doubt as to whether it is or is not a Communist coup or in the event that Chiari and Valerino appear to be in conflict one with the other, call up here immediately.

O'M O.K.  
McN Now do you have any questions covering any of these contingencies?  
O'M No... let's see the last one is in case of doubt.  
McN Call... or in case of apparent conflict between Valerino and Chiari  
O'M O.K. I've got that now. Conflict..  
McN And don't hesitate to call at any time of the night  
O'M Right.  
McN in cable but don't wait for the cable in order to act.  
And we'll confirm this ~~but don't wait for the cable~~  
Very good, thanks a lot.

O'M O.K.

*Retyped*

McN

Use two channels....

Will you tell Valerino that he can count on our help in the event the Communists endeavor to take over control of the government?

Will you, in the event that you received no request from Valerino or Chiari for help -- in the event of an alledged Communist takeover, immediately contact me... at any hour, tonight.

In the event of no request, but in the event of an alledged coup, immediately contact me anytime tonight...

That's why we want to cover all of these various contingencies...

In the event you have already told Valerino...

In the event that Valerino subsequently requests assistance to deter a Communist coup or prevent a Communist coup...

Andy, to go back over the previous instructions relating to a Communist coup, you will tell Valerino that in the event of a Communist coup he can count on our assistance to prevent it.

*Retyped*



# WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1713	Secretary McNamara and General O'Meara PCI 1 p.	1/13/64	A

## FILE LOCATION

Recordings and Transcripts of Conversations and Meetings, Transcripts of Telephone Conversations - White House Series, "January 1964" [2 of 5]

## RESTRICTION CODES

- (A) Closed by Executive Order 12356 governing access to national security information.
- (B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- (C) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift.

The President received a full report on the situation in Panama from Mr. Mann.

Mr. Mann emphasized that U. S. forces in the Panama Canal Zone have behaved admirably under extreme provocation. The President continues to believe that the first essential is the maintenance of peace. For this reason, the United States welcomes the establishment of the Joint Cooperative Committee ~~in~~ the Inter-American Peace Commission.  
THROUGH

We want to be good neighbors. But we cannot allow the security of the Panama Canal to be imperiled. We have a recognized obligation to operate the Canal efficiently and securely and we intend to honor that obligation in the interests of all who depend on it.

The United States continues to believe that when order is fully restored it will be possible to have direct discussions between the two governments.

Press  
Release  
1-13-64  
12:30 pm



on the situation in Panama

had

- (1) The President received a full report from Mr. Mann. *the last 3 years, he has been with admirably restraint*
- (2) The President continues to believe that the first essential is the maintenance of peace. For this reason, the United States ~~supports~~ *understands* the establishment of the 5-man Peace Supervision Group.
- (3) The United States believes the efficient, secure operation of the canal is in the best interest of this hemisphere and, indeed, the Free World. *understand*
- (4) We ~~want~~ *Panama* to be good neighbors. ~~But we have no intention of yielding to demands that would imperil the security of the canal. We have a recognized obligation to operate the Panama Canal safely and we intend to honor that obligation.~~ *We cannot allow*
- (5) The U.S. continues to ~~hope~~ *believe* that when ~~peace is secure~~ *peace is restored* it will be possible to have direct ~~and candid~~ *and candid* discussions ~~on all problems between two governments whose peoples have been and still should be friends.~~

the included

from Cabinet Room