

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date May 12, 1967

The White House

Day Friday

The President began his day at (Place)

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
					Beautiful sunny spring day, comfortably cool	
✓	7:30a	12:00n			Donald S. Thomas	
✓	7:40a				BREAKFAST w/ Donald S. Thomas	
	9:04a				The President asked for the Attorney General (Ramsey Clark)--he was en route to his office--word was left	
✓	9:18a		f		The Attorney General, Hon. Ramsey Clark--returning the President's call	
✓	9:50a				Jack Valenti called for the President--the President was still talking to the Attny Gen.	
✓	10:15a		f		Hon. Jack Valenti (began talking)	
	10:55a		t		Walt W. Rostow (pl)	
	11:09a		f		Walt W. Rostow	
	11:27a		t		Joe Califano (pl)	
	11:55a		f		Charles Roche--MW picked up in the President's room and said he would talk	
	12:00n		f		mjdr--re message to Prime Minister Wilson--Mr. Rostow was waiting for permission to send as Parliament was in session today and he wanted to be able to go ahead and send the message.	

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	12:04p				The President to the West Wing w/ Marvin Watson and Donald S. Thomas	
✓	12:04p				The President to the Cabinet Room OFF RECORD w/ Hon. Joe Barr <i>Joseph</i> Congressman Wright Patman Cong. Abe Multer Cong. Robert Stephens Cong. Tom Gettys Cong. Seymour Halpern Cong. Chester Mize Cong. Albert Johnson Cong. Henry Reuss Cong. Clement Zablocki Cong. Donald Fraser Congwm. Leonor Sullivan Hon. William Gaud, Administrator AID Hon. Joe Bowman <i>Joseph</i> Hon. Winthrop Knowlton (Treasury) Paul Nelson Asst Secy of State Joseph Palmer Walt W. Rostow Cong. William Widnall	
	12:38p				To the Rose Garden for pictures w/ above	

Secretary Barr took this
Congressional to Africa with
them -- they went to Africa for
two purposes: to inspect IDA
projects and to get a feel for the
substance and prospects of the
new African Development Bank.

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	12:40p				the President to the oval office	
C	12:41p	12:43p			Claude Ryan of Ryan Co. Aeronautical Co. Robert Co. JACKSON	
					to present the P ^R esident a medallion Co. commemorating the 40th anniversary of Charles Lindbergh's crossing of the Atlantic	
✓	12:44p	1:04p 1:04p			OFF RECORD: Douglass Cater John D. Rockefeller, III --Cater's briefing memo indicated that he would like to mention briefly the progress in Latin America and elsewhere in the area of population planning -- also Rockefeller believes that it would be highly appropriate for the President to set up a Commission on population.	
	1:11	1:23p			Jim Jones and Joe Califano	
✓	1:12p		t		Senator Richard Russell of Georgia	
C	1:24p	2:45p			To the mansion - for LUNCH Secretary Rusk Secretary McNamara Walt Rostow George Christian	

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✓	3:00p		t		The Attorney General, Ramsey Clark	
	3:02p		t		Harry McPherson (pl)	
	3:05p		f		Harry McPherson	
	3:51p		t		Walt Rostow (pl)	
	4:00p		t		Joe Califano (pl)	
	4:00p					
	4:09p		f		Joe Califano	
✓	4:10p		t		Secretary McNamara	

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	4:25p		t		Harry McPherson (pl)	
	4:55p		t		Francis Bator	
	5:00p		t		MW (pl)	
	5:01p		t		MW (pl)	
	5:10p*				See below*	
	5:29p				To the Oval Office	
	5:32p		+		Joseph Califano (pl)	
	5:39p		f		Joe Califano -- the President told Joe that he had talked to Secy McNamara this afternoon and told him to get on this labor dispute thing	
	5:44p		t		Tom Johnson - pl -- asking how the briefing went today. Tom replied that there was no afternoon briefing--they all went back [redacted] happy. The President told Tom that he was not going to release any pictures of Air Force One, and asked him to get with Liz Carpenter and work out something on receptions at the White	
	5:50	5:56p			Mrs. Johnson House. He said he wasn't going to attend any more [redacted] with reporters following him around all the time.	
	*5:10p				The President went to the library to greet Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pizze (he is Minister of Education and Chief of Police from Queensland, Australia). They were with John Gonella. At 5:26p, Mrs. Johnson joined the group. (John Gonella was the advance man for the President's visit to Townsville, Australia) In her note to MW, Ashton says: They greeted the President at the airport in Brisbane and did much in the arrangements of the	

stop
SEE TRAVEL RECORD
FOR TRAVEL ACTIVITY

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	6:00p		t		Walt Rostow (pl)	
	6:01p		t		Secretary Dean Rusk	
	6:05p		t		DeVier Pierson	
✓	6:10p		t		<i>Jack Valenti</i>	
✓	6:24		f		<i>Seny McNamara</i>	
✓	6:45p	7:15p			Henry Wilson PMG Lawrence [REDACTED] O'Brien	OFF RECORD
Q	7:15p	8:35p			Chalmers Roberts Carroll Kilpatrick and Tom Johnson George Christian	OFF RECORD
					The Washington Post is starting a series of stories on policy making in VietNam and the President told Russell Wiggins last night that he "would like to have something [REDACTED] to say about the stories." So the above named reporters submitted a request to GC to [REDACTED] see the President.	
	8:37p	9:15p			Francis Bator Harry McPherson	

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	8:57p				Mrs. Johnson and Senator Richard Russell joined	
					To little lounge, where the President visited w/ Mrs. Johnson, Sen Russell and Harry McPherson - over drinks	
	at approx 10:20p				mf went in to take a note to Harry McPherson telling him that Francis Bator needed to talk to him urgently about a matter for the Kennedy Round discussions. When mf went in, McPherson took the call on the President's telephone, and the President invited mf to sit down and have a drink with them. At the time, he and Sen Russell were discussing Doris Kearns, and the President asked Mrs. Johnson to read her FBI. After the President told Sen Russell the story of how she was selected, etc., Mrs. Johnson returned the file to the President, and the President said, "I think she's been framed." At this point, the President was handed (from mf) an item from tonight's night reading from Douglass Cater giving Miss Kearns accounting of how the matter came about. The President read this quietly, and then handed it to Harry McPherson asking him to study both her explanation and the file.	
	10:43p				To the mansion - w/ Mrs. Johnson, Senator Richard Russell, Harry McPherson, mf	
					Directly to the dining room for DINNER	
	10:47p			f	U. S. Ambassador to Australia, Edward Clark - (returning the President's call) The President asked him to return to the States as soon as possible -- and bring Mrs. Clark with him -- to help him in making plans for Prime Minister Holt's visit.	
					--the Amb was in Canberra, Australia	

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					At dinner, the President told Senator Russell that what he needed to talk to him about was VietNam (it was obvious that the two had discussed the same matter earlier in the evening). The President outlined three choices open to him:	
					" 1. I can move further in the North -- but they tell me that moving further in the north with the bombing will result in only killing civilians and will not accomplish anything that we've not already accomplished.	
					" 2. I can concentrate completely on the DMZ	
					" 3. I can concentrate on the areas between the seventeenth and twentieth parallels and make my planes make that a desert. Just destroy anything that moves."	
					Senator Russell feels that dragging this out each day leans more toward getting us in a big war. "We've just got to finish it soon," said the Senator, "because time is working against you both here and there." The Senator suggested that his feeling was that the only way to end the war was to blockade the ports and stop their lines of supply. ... The President expressed sincere belief that this would get us into war sooner than anything. He also felt that number (1) above would get us into war. "The only thing left to take out up there," said the President, "is a power plant which is located 1/2 mile from Ho's headquarters." "Suppose we missed," said the President.	
					The President then asked the Senator about Lester Maddox. The President told him, "Well, I watched him on Face the Nation last Sunday, and just decided that he definitely was not Georgia quality." The Senator said that Gov. Maddox was a child of fortune, just lucky, and couldn't have beaten any other man in the race except the one he did beat.	
					After his talk w/ Amb. Clark, the President affirmed his belief that he was a "holt and Menzies man." Sen. Russell said that he hoped Holt was an LBJ man because he knew that he won [redacted] eight seats at least as a result of the President's visit there. The President [redacted] said that when Holt was here he stood up and said, "All the Way with LBJ." The President appreciated that, but then took him aside, and said, "Now listen, I don't want you to become a	

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					casualty. If you are lost, then I lose a good friend. They'll murder you back home." [REDACTED] "No, sir," replied the Prime Minister, "That's the way it's going to be."	
					"And so it is," said the President.	
					The President then launched into a tirade against the newspaper [REDACTED] reporters who follow him around at receptions. He explained to Senator Russell that Liz [REDACTED] Carpenter's procedure is to invite about 25 of them as guests to each reception type function and then allow a press pool to cover the whole thing. The President said that he can't even swallow a mouth full of food without having one of them watch to see if he chewed it properly before swallowing. He said that all we're doing is inviting 500 guests, standing them before the wall, and then making them be gracious to the 25 who come up to them and ask questions like,	
					Are you happy here? Why are you here? Will you come next time? Are you a friend of the family? Isn't the service worse here than it used to be? Isn't the coffee weak?	
					The President was quite serious about this and told Mrs. Johnson again that he was no longer attending any receptions where the newspapers were invited as guests. He denied that his anger was caused by the newspaper stories released today about the "little monk" story -- "because no one in this country will be upset about their President and his daughter being down on their knees praying together to Almighty God."	
					At midnight, Senator Russell stood up and said, "Mr. President, it's midnight, and I have to go to bed because I'm an old man, and you have to go to bed because you're President of the United States."	
					The President said goodbye to Senator Russell -- and went to his bedroom.	
					mf, Sen Russell and Harry McPherson out	

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[illegible]