

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date Oct 31, 1968

The President began his day at (Place) _____

The White House

Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expendi- ture Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
	12:00	midnight			Usher says the President retired	
	12:23a		t		Lt. Cdr Tom Atkins	
	4:41a		t		Chief Bob Dunn in dispensary	
	4:42a		t		Situation Room	
	4:54a		f		Situation Room	
	5:00a		f		Walt Rostow	
	5:18a		t		Walt Rostow	
	5:22a		t		Chief Bob Dunn in dispensary	
	5:33a		f		Walt Rostow	
	5:38a		f		Walt Rostow	

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

DAILY DIARY

The President began his day at (Place).

The White House

Date Oct 31, 1968

Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
	9:10p				Walt Rostow called - the President was asleep - left word	
	10:14a		t		Rostow - pl	
	10:22a		t		Jones - pl	
	10:24a		t		McPherson 0 pl	
	10:30a		t		Jones - pl	
C	10:37a		t		Secy Rusk	
	10:45a		t		Temple - pl	
	10:55a		t		Jones - pl	
	11:30a		t		Rostow - pl	
	11:50a				To Oval Ofc	

SEE TRAVEL RECORD
FOR TRAVEL ACTIVITY

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1967 OF-256-957

Page No.:

Date Oct 31, 1968

The White House

Day Thursday

[illegible]

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1967 OF-256-957

Page No.:

DAILY DIARY

The White House

Date Oct 31, 1968

Day Thursday[illegible]

The President began his day at (Place).

The White House

Thursday

Day.

SEE TRAVEL RECORD
FOR TRAVEL ACTIVITY

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date Oct 31, 1968

The President began his day at (Place)

The White House

Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone for t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
	1:53pm				President to Second Floor of Mansion accompanied by the group shown with him in the theater at 1:35p Conversation on political situation and the media's handling of the candidates.	
	1:55pm		t		Secretary Orville Freeman (President talking from Second Floor Dining Room) - Discussion with Freeman on whether the Vice President should go to Chicago as promised for candle-light parade with Mayor Daley. (Freeman had asked President's advice). President said this was entirely up to the Vice President. (NOTE: The Vice President went)	
	2:00p	2:30			LUNCH	
					President Johnson Usher's office says only 5 ate	
					Secretary Clark Clifford lunch, but does not know which 5.	
					General Earle Wheeler	
					Secretary C. R. Smith	
					George Christian	
					Tom Johnson	
					Harry McPherson	
	2:30p				President returned to the theatre. Saw piece of film that he had recorded just before lunch. Whole film, in color, not available.	
	2:50p		f		Walt Rostow	

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date Oct 31, 1968

The President began his day at (Place) The White House

Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone for t		Activity (include visited by)	Expendi- ture Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
	2:50p				To the second floor	
	2:52p				To the South Portico w/ Mrs. Johnson -- and for a walk in the Rose Garden w/ Mrs. Johnson (awaiting the Arrival of Lynda and Lucinda)	
	3:05p				Lynda arrived at the South Portico, accompanied by Luci and little Lucinda Desha Robb Desha Robb	
	3:10p				The family to the second floor	
	3:25p		t		Rostow - pl	
	3:26p		t		Jones - pl	
	3:29p		t		Jones - pl	
c	3:30p		f		Secy Rusk	
	3:32p		t		Jones - pl	

SEE TRAVEL RECORD
FOR TRAVEL ACTIVITY

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1967 OF - 256-957

Page No.: 7

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date Oct 31, 1968

The President began his day at (Place) The White House Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
<u>2</u>	3:38p		f		Secy Rusk	
	3:39p		t		Rostow - pl	
	3:41p		t		Rostow - pl	
<u>1</u>	3:53p		t		Secy of Defense Secy of Defense Clark Clifford	
	4:00p		f		Walt Rostow	
	4:01p		t		Jones - pl	
	4:00k					
<u>C</u>	4:09p		*	t	Senator Everett Dirksen - Chicago (b. 1)	
	4:38p		f		Walt Rostow	
	4:50p		t		Jones - pl	
	5:04p		t		Rostow - pl	
	5:10p		t		Jones - pl	

The President began his day at (Place).

Day Thursday

The White House

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
	5:20p		t		Rostow - pl	
	5:21p			t	Edwin Weisl, Sr - NYC	
	5:25p		t		Jones - pl	
	5:30p		t		sanders - pl	
	5:32p		t		Jones - pl	
	5:41p				President to Oval Office accompanied by Jim Jones	
	5:54p		t		Jim Jones - pl	

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date Oct 31, 1968

The President began his day at (Place) The White House

Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
2	5:54p	6:35p			Secretary Clark Clifford Secretary Dean Rusk General Earle Wheeler Director Richard Helms Mr. Walt Rostow	Operator was asked to set up a Conference Call to Vice President Hubert Humphrey, Hon. Richard M. Nixon, and Governor George Wallace
	6:00pm				Tom Johnson ████ taking ■ Geri Rudolph (Steno-typist) into Oval Office	
	6:04p		t		Tom Johnson - pl	
3	6:05pm	6:21p		t	(Vice President Hubert Humphrey in Newark, N.J. (Ph: 351----9123))Hon. Richard M. Nixon at his apartment in New York City (Ph: a/c ████ 212 - 838-1441 (Gov. George Wallace in Norfolk, Virginia at the Golden Triangle Motor Hotel	
	6:22p		t		Jim Jones (PL)	
4	6:28p	6:35p	t		Sen. Thomas J. Kuchel (R) Cal - at Washington residence Sen. Everett McKinley Dirksen (R) Ill - in Chicago, Ill Sen. Mike Mansfield (D) Mont - in Harden Montana Speaker John W. McCormack (D) - Mass - at his Boston, Mass residence	
				t		
				t		
					-MORE-	

SEE TRAVEL RECORD
FOR TRAVEL ACTIVITY

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1967 OF - 256-957

Page No.: 10

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date Oct. 31, 1968

The White House

Thursday

The President began his day at (Place) _____

Day _____

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
					CONFERENCE CALL TO THE LEADERSHIP CONTINUED:	
C	6:28p	6:35p		t	Hon. Hale Boggs (D) - La - in New Orleans	
	6:33p	6:35p		t	Hon. Leslie C Arends (R) Ill - in Melvin, Ill (Note difference in time he was on the call --	
					--he kept cutting out, but was on during time given here.) on the line, holding, but did	
					(Additional note: Congressman Gerald R. Ford (R) Mich. was not on the line, holding, but did	
					not participate in this conference call. He did call in later. He said he hung up because he did	
					not know it was the White House calling him. Barefoot Sanders talked with the Congressman	
					about 6:45.)	
					(Additional note: Congressman Carl Albert could not be located in time to participate in this	
					call. Barefoot Sanders was successful in talking with him about 8 p.m.)	
	6:35p				At mjdr's desk	
	6:40p	6:48p			CABINET ROOM MEETING	
C					Secretary of State Rusk <i>Nicholas</i>	
					Under Secretary of State Katzenbach	
					Secretary of Defense Clifford <i>(Clark)</i>	
					Deputy Secretary of Defense Nitze <i>(Paul)</i>	
					Secretary of the Army Resor <i>(Stanley)</i>	
					Secretary of the Navy Ignatius <i>(Paul)</i>	
					Secretary of the Air Force Brown <i>(Harold)</i>	
					Secretary of the Treasury Fowler <i>(Henry)</i>	
					CIA Director Helms <i>(Richard)</i>	
					JCS Chairman Wheeler <i>(Earle)</i>	
					Army Chief of Staff Westmoreland <i>(William)</i>	
					General Palmer <i>(Bruce)</i>	
					Admiral Moorer, CNO <i>(Thomas)</i>	
					Acting Chief of Staff, Air Force, General Ryan <i>(John)</i>	
					Commandant, Marine Corps, General Chapman <i>(Leonard)</i>	
					OEP Director Daniel <i>(Price)</i>	
					USIA Director Marks <i>(Leonard)</i>	
					Walt Rostow	
					-MORE-	

Date Oct. 31, 1968

The White House

Thursday

The President began his day at (Place) _____

Day _____

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expendi- ture Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
	CABINET ROOM MEETING CONTINUED:					
	6:40p	6:48p			George Christian Larry Levinson	
					Tom Johnson Harry Middleton	
					Bromley Smith Bob Hardesty	
	Because of the historical importance of this day and of this meeting, Larry Levinson, Harry Middleton and Bob Hardesty took notes and combined them into the following:					
	The President was attired in a grey suit and grey tie. He spoke in a voice that seemed hoarse. His delivery was rapid and business-like. He stated:					
	"We are ready to announce that we are going to stop bombing North Vietnam. We have always held that conferences will not be productive unless the Government of Vietnam is represented; unless the other side refrains from shelling the cities; unless there is no violation of the DMZ.					
	"Hanoi has said that it is willing for South Vietnam to sit in on the meetings.					
	"We have let them know that any violation of the DMZ will trigger an attack from us.					
	"We have talked with the Soviet Union and others and they understand this.					
	"We will test their faith and see.					
	"I am going on the air at 8 p. m. tonight to talk to the Nation. Just before that, I will order the bombing to stop at 8 a. m. tomorrow.					
	"Negotiations will resume on November 6. If they are there, fine. If not, we will go on anyway.					
	"I've gotten the judgment of my advisers on this." (At this point the President read statements from his advisers:					
	"McConnell: Therefore, I recommend that you go ahead and do this.					
	"Rusk: I recommend that we proceed. I recommend that we proceed along the course as outlined.					
	"Chapman: I think we should go ahead with it.					
	"Palmer: Considering everything that has been brought up here, I would go along with making this proposition.					
	"Russell: It's worth a try.					
	-MORE -					

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date October 31, 1968

The President began his day at (Place) The White House, Washington, D. C.

Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
					CABINET ROOM MEETING CONTINUED:	
	6:40p	6:48p			"Westmoreland: But if the rules of engagement as suggested here are adopted, I see no problem.	
					"Abrams: I certainly subscribe to that a hundred per cent.	
					"They must respect the DMZ and the cities. It's worth the last mile. I'm willing to take that chance. All my advisers support me. If you have any differing opinions, I would like for you to say so.	
					"Bunker and Thieu are meeting. We hope to issue a joint statement. But if not, we will go ahead with our own.	
					"Do you have any objections? (The President went around the table. There was prompt and unanimous agreement among those present. Among the comments: "OK" "Absolutely. " "Strong" "The thing to do" "The right decision."	
					"Others who said wait a little while -- you'll get a better deal from the other fellow.	
					"We're doing this to test their good faith.	
					"There will be some hard negotiating ahead.	
					Secretary Rusk interjected: "There will be some hard fighting ahead."	
					The President replied "But this is worth a try. There will no doubt be charges of politics arise. But the next meeting won't be until November 6."	
	6:48p				Press photographers admitted accompanied by Tom Johnson for just a moment. Then the President said "Thank you gentlemen" and the group started leaving.	
					NOTE: (At the conclusion of the meeting, Walt Rostow commented --- also in a hoarse voice --- "This is the most sustained day and night effort I've had since the Cuban missile crisis."	
					The President stopped Secretary Rusk and was talking with him on the side.	
<u>2</u>	6:52p			t	The Vice President (using the Cabinet Room telephone) b. <u>2</u> (The VP had called Jim Jones	

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date October 31, 1968

The President began his day at (Place) The White House, Washington, D.C.

Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone for t		Activity (include visited by)	Expendi- ture Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
	7:11p	7:15p			The President, looking happy- bouyant - came out of the Cabinet room saying "Get somebody in to answer the phones and come on in and let's have a drink."	
	7:15p				Lyn Nugent (in Halowe'en costume and mask). (The hall door to mjdr's office opened and there stood the little "gremlin". The President pretended to be frightened and went along with the "game." Offered Lyn candy. Mrs. Johnson, Luci, Helene Lindow and Warrie Lynn Smith were "making the rounds" with Lyn.	
					(Mrs. Johnson called the mansion asking for hors'd'oeuvres and popcorn)	
					The President gave a list of people he wanted to talk to and went into the Oval Office with Mrs. Johnson et al staying on in mjdr's office	
C	7:18p			t	Senator Richard Russell (D) Ga. -- in Winder Georgia	
	7:19p				Senator Ralph Yarborough called. Said he would call tomorrow.	
C	7:20p			t	Senator Margaret Chase Smith (The President instructed -- he wanted to talk to her only if she were able to talk on the telephone; otherwise he would talk with her AA, Gen. Lewis.	
C	7:27p			t	<i>Low-Lew Harris - New York City</i>	
	7:35p				To mjdr's door inviting all to come on in and join him saying again to mjdr to get someone to come and answer the phones. (Mary Rther - working in Mildred Stegall's office returned to her desk)	
	7:36				To Lounge -- with Mrs. Johnson, Warrie Lynn, mjdr (Luci, Lyn and Helene had gone on to other offices on "Tricking and Treating."	
	7:40p			t	Walt Rostow (PL)	
	7:42p				Larry Levinson joined	
					The President was in a relaxed, expansive mood - most cheerful. He talked of what an ordeal the recent days have been but of what great strength Walt Rostow has given. He spoke of the fine qualities of the man -- patient, hard working, never complaining, never seeks credit or compliments -- just gives and gives and gives. Spoke of his high	

SEE TRAVEL RECORD
FOR TRAVEL ACTIVITY

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1967 OF -256-957

Page No.: *124*

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date October 31, 1968

The President began his day at (Place) The White House, Washington, D.C.

Day Thursday

Entry No.	Time		Telephone f or t		Activity (include visited by)	Expenditure Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
					regard for Mrs. Rostow.	
	7:49p				Mr. Walt Rostow joined.	
	7:50p				Jim Jones and Larry Temple joined	
					President suggested all move into Oval Office where there would be more room and all could watch the 8 o'clock broadcast on the larger TV sets.	
					President told Jim Jones he wanted him to carefully screen the people who have worked for him and who wanted to stay in Washington and who would need help in getting well situated -- mentioned particularly Helen Williams -- to see that she had all help in getting a good job	
	7:54p				Tom Johnson joined - reported Walt Rostow had done an excellent job in briefing the press. President asked specific questions on the briefing - Tom indicated all went well -- no difficulties -- no objectors.	
	8:00p	9:04p			In Oval Office - watched taped speech -- The President announcing bombing halt and related matters regarding Vietnam. With the President were (with various ones going and coming)	
					Mrs. Johnson	
					Luci Nugent and Lyn	
					Walt Rostow	
					Larry Levinson	
					Larry Temple	
					Tom Johnson	
					Jim Jones	
					Warrie Lynn Smith	
					Mary Rather	
					Okamoto	
					Juanita Roberts	

THE WHITE HOUSE
PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
DAILY DIARY

Date October 31, 1968

Thursday

The President began his day at (Place) The White House, Washington, D.C.

Day

Entry No.	Time		Telephone for t		Activity (include visited by)	Expendi- ture Code
	In	Out	Lo	LD		
	8:00p	9:04p			The President switched the TV presentation of his speech from channel to channel and conversation continued throughout the presentation The President expressed his wonder about what Chuck and Pat would think --- what their reaction to this announcement would be <u>He said it was the most important decision he had ever made.</u> He further said he was not sure it was the right decision but was what he felt had to be done. Said he couldn't guarantee Thieu what Thieu wanted. I could only tell him I was taking them on faith -- that the times demanded this action. This is a step toward peace.	
	8:30p				Mary Margaret Valenti called, but the President did not talk at that time.	
	9:00p				Edwin Weisl, Sr. of NY called. President did not talk at that time.	
	9:04p				To the Mansion <i>a Mrs. Johnson followed by Luci, Lynn, Helen Lindauer</i>	
	9:05p				In the Mansion	
<i>C</i>	9:09p			f	Sen. Warren Magnuson (D) Washington from Seattle.	
<i>C</i>	9:17p			t	William S. White. (Mrs. White had called earlier in the day leaving a simple message: (Just tell him we love him - June and Bill). The President called from the office, but the call was not completed until this time)	
	<i>9:18</i>				<i>Dwyer and Mary Rather</i>	
<i>C</i>	9:19p			t	Mrs. Mary Margaret Valenti returning her call of 8:30p <i>(Mrs. Jack)</i>	
<i>C</i>	9:31p			f	C. P. Little	
<i>C</i>	9:33p			f	Vickie McHugh <i>(Mrs. Simon)</i>	
	<i>9:35 10 22</i>				<i>Tom Johnson to second floor</i>	
	<i>9:37 10 40</i>				<i>George Christian, Mary Rather and Juanita Roberts</i>	
	10:00p				DINNER with <i>Helen Lindauer</i> <i>Geo. Christian and</i> Mrs. Johnson, Luci, Warren Lynn, Mary Rather, Tom Johnson, Juanita Roberts. Lynda	

SEE TRAVEL RECORD
FOR TRAVEL ACTIVITY

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1967 OF - 256-957

Page No.: *16*

DAILY DIARY

The President began his day at (Place) The White House, Washington, D. C.

Day ThursdayPage No.: 17

Date _____

Day _____

[illegible]

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1967 OF-256-957

Page No.:

18