

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dorothy ²⁷
Ten:to
Then
Lois
Nivens

CONFIDENTIAL

Memo for The Record

These are notes taken by Tom
Johnson in a meeting between The President
and General William C. Westmoreland at the
LBJ Ranch.

Tom
Tom Johnson

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NLS 82-42
By res, NARS, Date 11-7-83

MEETING NOTES
COPYRIGHTED

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

38a

Wonderful to
see you
Anxiously wish to
invite me here

aid

[1]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

SERVICE SET

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mrs. W in front
Mrs. J + General
in balcony.

52

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

met by P. Sarah
Valenti.

Intro to Mrs. Valenti

[3]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED

~~Publication Requires~~

~~Permission of Copyright~~

~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. U in back seat
w/ Mrs. J +
General.

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED

~~Publication Requires~~

~~Permission of Copyright~~

~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED
Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3) Showed front
of ranch house
Showed Pool.

"It's delightful"

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED
Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

~~ALL RIGHTS RESERVED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Owner by Thomas Nelson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

W:
"1st time on these
shoes in year and
a half. I'm mighty
proud of it too"

~~ALL RIGHTS RESERVED~~

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED
Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Aid w/him was
Capt. Carpenter.

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED
Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

(2)
gen 1 changed
into casual clothes
from uniform
Open-collar yellow
shirt
slacks w/ grey stripe

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Courtney Valenti
gave Gen'l kiss

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~ALL RIGHTS RESERVED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

6:45 Ride around
ranch

Char

[13]

~~ALL RIGHTS RESERVED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES~~
~~COPYRIGHTED~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1) ASKED HOW C/G SHIP
ACCIDENTLY BOMBED
LAST WEEK

2) TOWNS OF DUTY
PULLING BACK ON 1-YR. POLICY

3) morale

W: 9000

THREATENING HIGH

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NLS 82-42

By JS, NARA, Date 11-7-83

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

SERVICE SET

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Benefitted by
fact reserves haven't
been called up.

Prof. mil. leadership
in the ranks
not overseas against
their will.

If called up
reserves, would
have higher

[2]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED
Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

% of men overseas
in uniform not
against this must be
will
Ties w/ family
w/ business

[3]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED

Publication Requires

Permission of Copyright

Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Old men take it
in stride. Put
heart & soul into
task

[4]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires~~

~~Permission of Copyright~~

~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright~~

~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Most competent
Best motivated
group of men
in history*

[5]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright~~

~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Men fight for
principle.*

[6]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

hazards of
committing U.S.
forces to Vietnam
was that if
he didn't conduct
himself differently
from French

[7]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

we could see
history repeat
itself. May
have found
it impossible
to win - no

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Cooperation from
People*

[9]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Put emphasis
on rel. of
American troops
+ Vietnamese
people.
Must conduct
self properly

[18]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

[THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON]

*

~~This~~
Troops there to
assist U. in
"building a nation"
not only in
~~the~~ resisting the
Vietnamese.

[11]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
They (over men)
Extend a helping
hand on ~~over~~
as soon as they
get into an
area -
Medical aid
Boy Scout Troops

[12]

MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

W:

There are
we are doing it
as rapidly as we can

[13]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Elections:

Think it will
be successful.
We're going to
be pleasantly
surprised.
Interest is rising

[14]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

However, THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

This is a young political
nation.

We've taken steps to
restrain use of weapons
& minimize our
mistakes in
killing an innocent people

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

B-52 Strikes

One of very imp.
innovation of this
work.

Cable - get Mayers
Copy

103

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Obj. of B-52
Bomb on pattern
basis. Disrupt
enemy base - destroy
Mass formation

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Best intelligence
comes from deserters
& defectors.

[18]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*S. Vietnamese are
supervising*

[19]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires~~

~~Permission of Copyright~~

~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Studies by Defense
Dept.

Know of no such
Study.

[20]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires~~

~~Permission of Copyright~~

~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. J: Sorry this
is not better expressed
by American press.

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~

~~Publication Requires
Permission of Copyright
Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Ash the General for
response to these one:

- ① What is the current
status of our effort
in Vietnam? ^{winning}
STOPPED LOSING
- ② Would you forecast
an end to the war in
less than 5 years?

[22]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Wanted to talk
w/ him here as
I did in Hong Kong
Didn't want
Not lot of addl
personnel much
[23]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1) Status Report

A Report

12-13

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

We're going to win this
war for you without
mobilization.

[25]

~~MEETING NOTES COPYRIGHTED~~
~~Publication Requires~~
~~Permission of Copyright~~
~~Holder: W. Thomas Johnson~~