

WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
#79 notes	Handwritten notes from 8/20/68 Tuesday luncheon with Foreign Policy Advisors Secret 20 pp.	8/20/68	A
#80 notes	Typed notes from 8/20/68 meeting [Sanitized NLJ-CBS 40] Secret 4 pp. <i>open 9-17-96 NLJ 9698</i>	8/20/68	A

FILE LOCATION

Tom Johnson's Notes of Meetings, Box 3

RESTRICTION CODES

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AUGUST 20, 1968 - 2:05 p.m.

TUESDAY LUNCH WITH FOREIGN POLICY
ADVISORS

The President
Secretary Rusk
Secretary Clifford
Ambassador Ball
General Westmoreland

Director Helms
Walt Rostow
George Christian
Tom Johnson

Evelyn
PW type

79-

PRESIDENT : _____

August 20, 1968

Rusk _____

Cl. Ford _____

Ball _____

Westmoreland _____

Helms _____

Rostow _____

Christian _____

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

NLJ 96-98

By ing NARA Date 8-31-96

[1]

President: We need to check the problems of troops in Chicago if riots develop at time of convention.

Westmoreland: We have worked out detailed plans on contingency basis.

President: Daley is calling up troops (National Guard) today.

Clifford: We have had a group working on this for some weeks. All hell could break loose.

[2]

President: What about 3rd wave?

Helms: Enemy is in position
to have 3rd wave. It will
probably come out like
measles in next 10 days to
2 weeks.

President: We really don't
know?

Helms: Yes

Westmoreland: Attacks are
associated w/ major offensive
in Northern I Corps
and III Corps near Saigon.

[3]

This is a prelude to a
general offensive. I expect
it about 24th or 25th
at beginning of convention.

Clifford: They can go either
way. They are ready.

Rusk: I am not sure what
their military men believe
they are capable of doing.
They may be allergic to
these political orders.

Rostow: I honestly don't know
what they will do.

Westmoreland: I think their attacks
are diversionary.

[4]

Rostow: Low rate of
infiltrators this month.
This indicates they will
keep the forces in place
possibly.

Rusk: They brought in
replacements before hand

Rostow: My mind is
more open than a few
days ago.

Westmoreland: The capability
is there. We have
preempted much of
their attacks.

[5]

Westmoreland: The SVN are
stronger.

Rusk: We have message in
on Strategic Missile Talks
in Geneva on Sept 30
at the end of non-nuclear
conference.

They are prepared to
announce on the 22nd

Sept 30 is not a good
date. We should have
it earlier or later.

It will be at level of
special delegation. —
not foreign ministers.

[6]

President: We need date
of exchanges with Soviets
including Glassboro.

Begin with Jan 64 letter
day of Howard U. speech.

I will talk to Mansfield
+ Fulbright tomorrow.

Clifford: This whole proceeding
in this government has gone
well.

Pres.: That is right.
We should say we
have been preparing
for these talks.

[7]

Clifford This is a
matter of great public
interest.

Pres. You have any comment
of this, George?

Ball. No, not on this.

Rusk. It is good to have these
talks at a technical level.

Pres. Get Announcement on
TAB A.

Ball. I am depressed
with middle East
situation

Ehron has backed out.
They are digging in.

[8]

Israelis do not intend
to do anything. Dayan
told me "we have
never had such peace."

They will sit on real
estate for long time.

Also, Hussein will lose
his job. Terrorists
are becoming active.
We'll get radical
gov't in Jordan - also
Saudi Arabia -
perhaps in Egypt.

Arabs may go much
more radical. There is
a state of anarchy.

[9]

Pres. Should we give them
Phantoms before or after our
talks with the Soviets.

Ball. Wait until after
meeting, but tell the
Soviets so they don't feel
hoodwinked. They used Shyhawks
in raid on Jordan. Foreign
ministers will all be in
N.Y. in 1st of October.

Rostow. They are not sure
they will get the plane.

Tomorrow's announcement
will shake them.

[10]

Rostow: We should say don't be
inflexible - exchange substantive
views through Gerring.

President: Tell them they should
do 1-2-3-4-5 and then
we are prepared to move
on Phantoms.

Pres. who is in group I'm to meet with?
Ch. Ford:

Rusk

Rostow

Foster

CC

Wheeler

Helms

AEC

[11]

Pres Can Harvi move
until they see who is nominated
and what is his views.

Rusk: We will not get movement
before the convention

Clifford: I see nothing to
suggest they attack anyone
to conventions.

Rusk: Vance got impression
that this is a holding action
at Paris.

Pres: will they seriously
negotiate before
convention?

Clifford: I agree they
will not

[12]

Ball: I agree.

Pres: Is Ball crying over there
about his instructions

Rush: I would not think so.

Clifford: What reaction did
we get from Ansell
on your press conference?

Rush: A hope we would not
undermine the March 31
statement.

[13]

Bres: The Pope was turned down
by Hansi

What about Norway thing?

Gusk: They feel Paris talks are
too direct and too
publicized.

Ball: McCarthy has a
fundamental shift in his
position. He wants an
interim coalition
to prepare for election

Rusk: Tonight's meeting with
platform committee will
raise question on Middle
East, ABM, USS Liberty.



Westmoreland: We are bombing
trucks laden with war material.

Pres: The Christian Science Monitor
said today greatest number of
infiltrators got through in
period when we were
doing the most bombing
below the 20th.

[15]

Appointment Asked Walt Rostow
for Appointment

Set up for 8

Meeting Started 8:15 —
Cabinet Room

Then sent Rush note

NSC

The VP

[16]

Chronology March 20

8:17

Dobryniv
Roston

8:42

9:30 IT GG.

10:15 -

Cabinet Room

11:10

11:40 -

3:10

JP

3:15

[17]

not in national interest
 to talk about trips
 or lack of trips

Does will go anywhere
 anytime that he could
 serve the cause of
peace

~~People~~

Book

men in public life
 distributed by

Pres never anxious to
 go anywhere. Had plenty
 of opportunities to go

[18]

until he makes up his
mind,

[19]

~~James~~ Gene Patterson

6 members of Civil Rights Commission

| Hannah | John
freeman

Wm Taylor	(W)	Staff Director
⊗ ¹ Carl Holman	(B)	Deputy
Howard Glickstein	(W)	Jail Counsel
Sam Simmons	(B)	F. Service

Taylor resigning - Sept 6

x Turned to Holman - (going to Gordon)

Taylor re. Glickstein
Holman re. Simmons

George Johnson Protest at Michigan

OK

② Third Party holding action

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NOTES ON PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH
TUESDAY LUNCHEON GROUP

AUGUST 20, 1968

THOSE ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE:

The President
Secretary Rusk
Secretary Clifford
Ambassador Ball
General Westmoreland
CIA Director Helms
Walt Rostow
George Christian
Tom Johnson Tom

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6
NLJ 96-98
By ig, NARA Date 8-31-96

The President: We need to check the problems of troops in Chicago if riots develop at time of convention.

General Westmoreland: We have worked out detailed plans on contingency basis.

The President: Mayor Daley is calling up troops (National Guard) today.

Secretary Clifford: We have had a group working on this for some weeks. All hell could break loose.

The President: What about 3rd wave?

CIA Director Helms: The enemy is in position to have 3rd wave. It will probably come out like measles in next ten days to two weeks.

The President: We really don't know?

CIA Director Helms: Yes.

General Westmoreland: Attacks are associated with major offensive in Northern I Corps and III Corps near Saigon. This is a prelude to a general offensive. I expect it about the 24th or 25th at the beginning of the convention.

Secretary Clifford: They can go either way. They are ready.

Secretary Rusk: I am not sure what their military men believe they are capable of doing. They may be allergic to these political orders.

Walt Rostow: I honestly don't know what they will do.

General Westmoreland: I think their attacks are diversionary.

Walt Rostow: There was a low rate of infiltrators this month. This possibly indicates they will keep the forces in place.

Secretary Rusk: They brought in replacements beforehand.

Walt Rostow: My mind is more open than a few days ago.

General Westmoreland: The capability is there. We have pre-empted much of their attacks.

General Westmoreland: The South Vietnamese are stronger.

Secretary Rusk: We have a message in on Strategic Missile talks in Geneva on September 30 after the end of the non-nuclear conference.

They are prepared to announce on the 22nd. September 30 is not a good date. We should have it earlier or later. It will be at the level of the special delegation -- not foreign ministers.

The President: We need the dates of exchanges with the Soviets including Glassboro. Begin with the January 64 letter on the day of the Howard University speech.

I will talk to Mansfield and Fulbright tomorrow.

Secretary Clifford: This whole proceeding in this government has gone well.

The President: That is right. We should say we have been preparing for these talks.

Secretary Clifford: This is a matter of great public interest.

The President: Do you have any comment on this, George (Ambassador Ball)?

Ambassador Ball: No, not on this.

Secretary Rusk: It is good to have these talks at a technical level.

The President: Get an announcement on Tab A.

Ambassador Ball: I'm depressed with the Middle East situation. Eban has backslid. They are digging in. The Israelis do not intend to do anything. Dayan told me "We have never had such peace." They will sit on real estate for a long time.

Also, Hussein will lose his job. Terrorists are becoming active. We'll get radical government in Jordan -- also Saudi Arabia -- perhaps in Egypt.

The Arabs may go much more radical. There is a state of ambivalence.

The President: Should we give them ^Phantoms before or after our talks with the Soviets?

Ambassador Ball: Wait until after meeting, but tell the Soviets so they don't feel hoodwinked. They used Skyhawks in the raid on Jordan. The Foreign Ministers will all be in New York on the first of October.

Walt Rostow: They are not sure they will get the plane. Tomorrow's announcement will shake them.

We should say don't be inflexible -- exchange substantive views through Jarring.

The President: Tell them they should do 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and then we are prepared to move on Phantoms.

The President: Who is in the group I'm to meet with?

Secretary Clifford:

Rusk, Rostow, Foster, Clifford, Wheeler, Helms, AEC

The President: Can Hanoi move until they see who is nominated and *what* his views are?

Secretary Rusk: We will not get a movement before the convention.

Secretary Clifford: I see nothing to suggest they will attach significance to the convention.

Secretary Rusk: Vance got the impression that this is a holding action at Paris.

The President: Will they seriously negotiate before the convention?

Secretary Clifford: I agree they will not.

Ambassador Ball: I agree

The President: Is Ball crying over there about his instructions.

Secretary Rusk: I would not think so.

Secretary Clifford: What reaction did we get from Averill Harriman on your Press Conference?

Secretary Rusk: "I hope we would not undermine the March 31 statement."

The President: The Pope was turned down by Hanoi. What about the Norway thing?

Secretary Rusk: They feel the Paris talks are too direct and too publicized.

Ambassador Ball: McCarthy has a fundamental shift in his position. He wants an interim coalition to prepare for election.

Secretary Rusk: Tonight's meeting with the Platform Committee will raise question on the Middle East, ABM, USS Liberty.

General Westmoreland: We are bombing trucks laden with war materiel.

The President: The Christian Science Monitor said today that the greatest number of infiltrators got through in the period when we were doing the most bombing below the 20th.

#

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~~TOP SECRET~~

Lunch Meeting With the President
Tuesday, August 20, 1968 - 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Sec. Rusk's Testimony Before the Democratic Platform Committee
This Evening, Tuesday, Aug. 20. (The President)
2. Soviet Agreement to Talk About Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Explosions.
(Sec. Rusk)

Tab A, attached, contains the Soviet acceptance. Before the announcement is made, there are certain issues which are being cleared up between Bill Foster and Amb. Dobrynin, at Sec. Rusk's direction. You may wish to consider at lunch the timing of an announcement.

3. Strategic Missile Talks. (The President, Sec. Rusk and Sec. Clifford)

You may wish to give your initial reaction to the proposal forwarded to you at the Ranch. Attached at Tab B is a rather responsible Soviet official suggesting:

- We shall hear officially by the end of this week;
- ~~ALL~~ Soviets envisage the opening of the talks at mid-September.
The

4. The Third Wave? (Sec. Clifford, Mr. Helms)

5. Other.

Note: You may wish to encourage the group to speculate about basic Soviet strategy in U.S.-Soviet relations at this stage, including the relationship to possible moves against Czechoslovakia or to recovery from the setback with Czechoslovakia, if they accept it.

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4(b)

White House Guidelines, Feb. 24, 1983
By alt, NARA, Date 3-6-91

W. W. Rostow

~~TOP SECRET~~