

WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
#18 notes	Notes from 9/25/68 - 2:04 p.m. President's weekly luncheon meeting with Foreign Policy Advisors Top Secret 3 pp <i>declassified NLS 89-207</i> <i>"C" closing sanitized and moved to open 7-10-91</i>	9/25/68	A and C <i>C closing removed 12-3-91</i>
#19 notes	Handwritten notes from 9/25/68 meeting Top Secret 5 pp.	9/25/68	A and C
#20a memo	Walt Rostow to the President re Berlin Confidential 2 pp.	9/17/68	A

FILE LOCATION **Tom Johnson's Notes of Meetings, Box 4**

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SEPTEMBER 25, 1968 - 2:04 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY LUNCHEON WITH FOREIGN
POLICY ADVISERS

The President
Secretary Rusk
Secretary Clifford
Walt Rostow
Tom Johnson

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September 25, 1968

NOTES OF THE PRESIDENT'S WEEKLY
LUNCHEON MEETING

Meeting Began: 2:04 p. m.

Meeting Ended: 2:45 p. m.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec 3.4
NY 89-207
By MS, NARA, Date 4-24-91

Attending were:

The President
Secretary Rusk
Secretary Clifford
Walt Rostow
Tom Johnson

Clark Clifford: George Ball called me. I saw him this morning.

He said he had "reached a decision."

I listed the reasons he should continue in the job. Ball also said:

I cannot permit myself to remain quiet any longer about Nixon. He is a liar, dishonest, and a crook. This is my country. We would get poor leadership. He said he must be free.

- Speak out myself
- Help Humphrey say what he should
- Bring in people to help

He said he couldn't live with himself if he didn't work to defeat Nixon.

Secretary Rusk: He said the same things to me. He is mis-estimating the political situation. It would be interpreted as "break" with the Administration.

Clark Clifford: He said he does not intend to "break" with Administration.

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Secretary Rusk: Ball quits 2 months after he leaves office.

Clark Clifford: He has an excellent statement.

The President: The time when he should have decided this was when he agreed to serve.

The President: I talked to Dirksen yesterday.

Secretary Rusk: Bus might pass the word to Abrams to slip out these facts about

- The 3rd offensive being blunted.
- SVN strength improved

Clark Clifford: Better press tone because of

- General Sidle's approach
- General Abrams 'doesn't "sell" it.
- Facts are on our side.

Secretary Rusk: Bunker would try to go along with anything, but he puts priority on GVN presence at table.

Secretary Rusk: To replace Ball, Cy Vance would be ideal.

Walt Rostow: I expect within 2 weeks to know what will happen in Paris. They are getting their military dispositions. Detailed messages on exactly what their strength is in the field.

The President: Ball's going to Humphrey is part of movement to "dove" side -- special sale number one. McCarthy is an admirer of Ball's.

Clark Clifford: This may be a desperation move by HHH. They talked on the phone Monday.

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Secretary Rusk: Spanish base problem is a real one. Their minimum is for five-year agreement and \$100 million per year. We cannot meet their minimum figure. Congress does not have time to look at it.

Clark Clifford: I was asked about this in House Committee. I told them it might be \$100 million in equipment and \$100 million in loans. Nobody would go for \$500 million. I have asked for 6 months extension. The Foreign Minister said they would turn this down. We will have to start under Article 5 of Base Agreement.

The President: I would extend time and up amount, if it could come from surplus.

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Tom Johnson

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Meeting With the President
Wednesday, September 25, 1968 - 1:00 pm

AGENDA

1. United Nations. (Sec. Rusk and Sec. Clifford)

2. Paris Negotiations. (Sec. Rusk)

Where we stand.
Next steps.

3. Eastern Europe and Berlin. (Sec. Rusk)

Situation report. Sec. Rusk wishes to discuss tripartite Berlin statement, earlier raised with you. (Tab A)

4. Abrams' Backgrounder. (Sec. Clifford)

Bus and Clark believe reporting from Saigon is now so good -- and Gen. Abrams' standoffish posture so successful -- they recommend against a backgrounder.

5. Nuclear Release Authority. (Sec. Clifford)

Sec. Rusk, Sec. Clifford, and Gen. Wheeler have completed a review of this matter, designed to clear up ambiguities. I believe Sec. Clifford will wish to leave papers for your consideration.

6. Other.

Walt Rostow

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TEXT OF DRAFT ALLIED DECLARATION ON BERLIN
(FRG TEXT AS AMENDED IN DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEPTEMBER 10, 1968)

Questions concerning the role of the Federal Republic of Germany in helping maintain the viability of Berlin having been raised recently, the Governments of France, the U.K., and the U.S. find it useful to make their own views clear. The Three Powers therefore issue the following declaration:

As a result of agreements reached among the Four Powers in connection with the termination of hostilities in 1945, Greater Berlin, as a part of Germany, is subject to the joint administration of the Four Powers pending a peace settlement. Until the establishment of a final governmental organization on German soil, territories on German soil--including in particular Berlin--remain a part of Germany and their status cannot be changed without the consent of all of the Powers concerned.

The Three Powers have over the years welcomed the development of close contacts between the three Western Sectors of Berlin and the Federal Republic of Germany as an important contribution to the viability of Berlin and to the Three Powers in meeting their responsibilities in the city. These contacts are also in accord with the will of the people of West Berlin.

Maintaining the viability of Berlin is of great significance not only to the U.S., U.K. and France but to the entire world. Its absence could lead to tensions threatening peace not only in Berlin or in Germany, but throughout the world.

The Federal Republic has conducted certain activities in Berlin which contribute to the viability of Berlin. These activities threaten no one. The Three Powers will accept no outside interference with these legitimate activities or with peaceful passage of Germans and commerce between Berlin and the Federal Republic. At the same time, the Three Powers will continue to exercise fully their control and authority in Berlin as provided for by valid international treaty and practice. The Three Powers expect the Soviet Union to respect all decisions taken pursuant to the Three Powers' authority in Berlin.

The Three Western Allies pursue their obligations in Berlin in the spirit of furthering international peace, order, and well-being. The Fed Rep's contribution to Berlin's viability is consistent with this spirit. The three Western Allies hope that the same dedication to these international goals will guide the Soviet authorities in formulating their policies with respect to Berlin.