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#84 notes	Notes from 10/30/68 - 4 p.m. President's meeting with Foreign Policy Advisors [Sanitized NLJ 87-31 Secret 3 pp.	10/30/68	A
#85 notes	Handwritten notes from 10/30/68 meeting Secret 2 pp.	10/30/68	A
#85a notes	Handwritten notes from 10/30/68 meeting Secret 5 pp.	10/30/68	A

FILE LOCATION

Tom Johnson's Notes of Meetings; Box 4

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OCTOBER 30, 1968 - 4:00 p.m.

MEETING WITH FOREIGN POLICY ADVISORS

The President
Secretary Rusk
Secretary Clifford
General Wheeler
Walt Rostow
Harry McPherson

George Christian
Tom Johnson

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MEETING NOTES
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October 30, 1968

Meeting Began: 4:00 p.m.

NOTES OF THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH:

Secretary Rusk
General Wheeler
Harry McPherson
Tom Johnson

Secretary Clifford
Walt Rostow
George Christian

SANITIZED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4

NLJ 87-31

By sig, NARA, Date 6-20-89

The President: When are we stopping it?

Secretary Rusk: Stop at 11:00 a.m. - announced.

The President: Let's stop it so I can announce at 7 today or at 7 tomorrow.

General Wheeler: We can stop it at 0800 Saigon time or 7:00 p.m. tomorrow. There is nothing to do.

Clark Clifford: Do we have information about Thieu making speech?

The President: Make it the day after tomorrow if possible.

Secretary Rusk: What about the timing?

The President: Announce it at 7 p.m. tomorrow.

Clark Clifford and Dean Rusk background, perhaps even appear on television.

Orders go out at 12 noon. This means stopping it - cessation - at midnight tomorrow (1 p.m. on November 1, Saigon time).

We would have from 6 to 8 to work on Congress and Candidates.

I talked to Dirksen once before. He wrote an article on how "we could reasonably hope for GVN to be recognized by sitting at talks."

George Christian: I will send the Press home now.

Clark Clifford: If orders go out at 12 noon tomorrow to stop bombing at 12 midnight, what is the possibility of a leak?

General Wheeler: There is a chance of a leak from Saigon.

The President: It would be 2 - 3 in the morning.

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EYES ONLY

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General Wheeler: You would have a better chance of security. If it goes out at 12:00 Washington time, it is 1:00 a.m. in Saigon.

Secretary Rusk: When do we tell the Hanoi delegation?

The President: I would tell them as late as possible.

Secretary Rusk: Say to them: "The President is ordering a complete halt in the bombing at _____ time."

The President: Why not hold off on issuing orders until I made speech?

Secretary Rusk: Orders issued when

The President: At 8 p.m. I speak Thursday (EST). Make issue of orders at 8 p.m. Thursday. Make effective 8 a.m. Friday.

1300 Zulu
2100 Saigon on 1st

Secretary Rusk: We should notify Hanoi tomorrow morning.

We can guarantee there won't be a leak out of Paris. Tell them we don't expect incidents.

General Wheeler: 12 hours will do it.

The President: I thought Hanoi already agreed to it.

Have Vance call them now. Tell them we have 8 allies, candidates and Congressmen to deal with.

Tell them we are going to proceed at 8 - 9 o'clock, early evening if we can understand that you are aboard.

I want all of you to go on television.

Secretary Rusk: ("Today")

Clark Clifford: (Joseph Benti)

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Let's concentrate on our embassies, Saigon and Hanoi between 6 - 8, or 7 - 8.

Secretary Rusk: Times will be "ungodly" in Australia, New Zealand.

Walt Rostow: 6 p.m. EST = NZ 11 a.m.
Cambodia 9 a.m.
Korea 8 a.m.

EST 5 p.m. is = 7 a.m. in Korea

Secretary Rusk: We'll have trouble [REDACTED] (u)(s)

The President: Nobody is notified 3 hours before announcement.

The President: I want to say reason I did what I did on March 31 was, as Clark Clifford said, to "test the good faith" of North Vietnam.

"I have determined tonight to give a fair test to that good faith."

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