

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE
WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
#45	1/29/66 NSC meeting <i>sanitized NSC 3-24-82 re NLS 80-29</i> <i>Opened NLJ/CBS 17 10-16-84</i> possible classified information 4p.	1/30/66	A

FILE LOCATION

Meeting Notes File, Box 1

DCH 10/81

RESTRICTION CODES

- (A) Closed by Executive Order 11652 governing access to national security information.
(B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
(C) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift.

Meeting of National Security Council

Date: (Not specified but believe it was January 30, 1966 -- check)

Time: 12:15 p.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Present: President, Vice President, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Rusk, McNamara, Wheeler, Fowler, Mac Bundy, Bill Bundy, Goldberg, Marks, Raborn, Helms, Vance, Bromley Smith, Moyers, Califano, Valenti

(from notes by J. Valenti)

Raborn: Roughly twice the level of infiltration of supplies this time a year ago. 600 trucks spotted coming through the trail in period since December 27.

(Recounted reconstruction, resupply, that is going on in North Vietnam.)

283 buildings in Yen Bi Airfield. Rebuilding air defense capabilities, particularly anti-aircraft. Triple A Division for anti-aircraft has been moved to the DRV border (this is Chinese division).

Estimated 22 battalions coming in from the northern provinces. Evidence in South Vietnam there are now some six to nine regimental command headquarters.

Total incidents since pause -- while low it is cyclical level after high period of activity.

Have noticed 60 shallow river dredges to utilize rivers in lieu of roads.

Rusk: (reported on peace offensive)

Goldberg: (reported on UN and Pope)

President: You've talked to U Thant and all the others in UN - and no response.

McNamara: Joint Chiefs report.

General Johnson: In area immediately below Marines, First Cavalry started Operation Masher (unreadable) will commit five battalions. Koreans secure route one. South Vietnam, rangers and airborne have contacted enemy. A major engagement. In Bien Hoa area, a brigade is moving. Seizing large caches of food and munitions. Making significant progress around Saigon. Choppers hit hard in Masher. 21 out of 38 hit.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NLT/CBS 17

By LCU Date 10-16-84

SERVICE SL

Army has 126,000 -- total of 197,000.

President: What do you need most to help you?

Johnson: Surge troops in -- doubling and tripling numbers -- declare emergency and calling up reserves.

President: Then you don't attach importance to bombing the North?

Johnson: I do attach importance. Particularly closing off movement of supplies. Can't close it all off but can cost them heavily.

President: Would you call up reserves and have mobilization in advance of bombing?

Johnson: No. Start bombing first.

President: What are benefits of bombing the North?

Johnson: Drop in resources available to serve population of the North.

President: How do you answer: "give me proof of bombing benefits.?"

Johnson: 1. Destroyed trucks.
2. Cost them manpower.

President: You would put highest priority on resuming bombing?

Johnson: Yes, because that's the most immediate thing.

McConnell (Air Force): In South Vietnam attack sorties 1,000 a week and 300 a month B-52s. In Laos 1200 a week. Losses (unreadable).

President: What do you anticipate losses in planes if we go north?

McConnell: They will be higher because of rebuilding.

President: How many planes lost in last 30 days?

McConnell: 3 -- and one was not operational. We were losing 20 a month against North Vietnam targets. Lose 5 per thousand sorties a month.

President: What importance do you attach to resumption? You are using that power elsewhere.

McConnell: I think we should resume -- intensified effort. Cut down circle around Hanoi and Haiphong.

Green (Marine Corps): Marines are centered in two areas. One involved amphibious landing. Total of four Marine battalions and five South Vietnamese battalions. Other area in Danang area.

Military Program in I Corps has come to a halt. Need additional troops. Will arrive this month.

Pacification program has slowed down. Need more Marines.

I feel air strikes should be resumed as soon as possible. Start with sharp blow and keep up with increased pressure.

President: Suppose we had been bombing every day. Would we have had 600 trucks coming down? How many?

Green: Convinced we could have stopped half of them.

Raborn: With good bombing could have cut down flow by 50 per cent.

President: Senator McCarthy wants to know how much we would have stopped.

Raborn: Gone from 530 to 1140 a month in travel of trucks.

McNamara: Roughly 400 trucks destroyed plus 250 to 400 damaged.

President: What you say is that bombing will not stop them or essentially reduce them.

McNamara: I say it won't stop them -- and I don't know if it will reduce them.

McDonald (Navy): Naval activity at sea -- believe Soviets...

I don't believe we can stop the trucks. I think we can stop a good deal of it and we should do everything we can to help it.

President: (1) Let's see what we think is happening in increased traffic since the pause; (2) see what we can do to stop that traffic; (3) see if we

SERVICE SET

are really being effective.

A number of Senators have said the bombing has no effect. We need to answer this.

Our Commanders feel they were restricted in ...

NOTES END HERE