

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT

October 24, 1975

1620 to 1650

He OKed the schedule for Saturday and Monday. We talked about the China trip. I said to him that it sounded to me as though Henry had put out that story about additional stops on the plane for one of two reasons: either he honestly felt that the China trip was not going to work out well enough to make it worth your trip over there and therefore there should be other stops or he was afraid it might not work out well and we wanted to put some heat on the Chinese. In any event I recommended to him that he not go to China and if it is possible to work it out with Henry they not go which it strikes me from reading the cables that that might be the case, that might be best politically, and that it might not be bad to keep the Chinese a little off balance.

He talked about going to Burning Tree to play golf on Sunday. I told him he couldn't get outside the building. He just absolutely could not. That I had told everyone he was not going to, that you cancelled meetings and could not leave the White House compound. He said well I want to play a set of tennis on Saturday. Get that set up. And I want to play tennis if I can't go outside. on Sunday unless I can get Max Elben or Chamberlain to come over and give me a lesson. He then called them and neither one of them could come. I've told Terry to set up --

DICK: Tell Terry to be sure that the tennis is
set up for Saturday and Sunday. ^{o Bk}

The President then said he wanted to see me on Saturday for about 30 or 45 minutes alone. I told him that Dick and I would be ready to see him at 10:30 a. m.

He then said he wants to see Henry and me together later in the day on Saturday.

Betty

We worked out the Florida trip. He agreed that I need not go since Mrs. Sadat didn't care to attend and ~~Agnew~~ wanted to have a stag dinner. He checked with Betty and we walked out and saw the puppies. Jack Ford was upset because he had been waiting 45 minutes for the Secret Service to go run with him. I left him the agenda on the Paris advance to take back to the residence. I have got to remember to pick that up. Someone give me a note.

ASNEW

I told him that he didn't look well. He ought not to be meeting with too many outside people. His voice was weak and he wasn't Presidential.

I told him that Dole had called on the grain thing and wants to get together with a group of people possibly someone from Cannon's shop, maybe Butz, and we ought to figure out how we deal with the farm types who are made at him at the present time.

MEMO: to Cannon

I told him that Squeaky Fromme's hearing on the question of the President's video tape had been put off until the following Tuesday.

I told him that the LA speech had to be on the tax cut/spending cut. He then said that he had met with them and they had an awful lot on food stamps and he told them to take some of that out and put in more on the tax cut/spending cut and have that ready to go - that he wanted that by Saturday morning.

He then said that he told Bob immediately after completing that speech he should get together and polish the New York speech and that Seidman had the action to write out a first draft of what the policy decisions were out of the meeting on New York City today.

I told the President that Marsh had talked to Admiral Anderson and told him he wouldn't be continuing as Chairman and he took it well.

I told him that Levi had come back to me on the Bensinger matter, has cold feet, doesn't think that other fellow did reregister as a Democrat, and that I had argues against it, and thought he should get someone from a different state, he said he would agree to try to find someone from another state, and it is on hold. I have told Doug Bennett.

The President said to me that when I talk to you tomorrow, I want you to know that what I have in mind will require that you get along very, very well with Henry, and do you think you could do that? I said to him that there was no doubt in my mind but that I could from my standpoint, but that what he was talking about and how he handled it and how Henry handled it would be determinitive.

END OF MEMO