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**TO:** The Files  
**FROM:** Donald Rumsfeld  
**RE:** Meeting with President Nixon - 1/20/94

President Nixon said roughly the following:

1. The Cold War is over, but it was not won. Rather, the Communist lost it. The West has yet to win it. Communism failed but freedom is still on trial. The question is can we provide what Communism couldn't, namely freedom and a challenge beyond peace with justice.
2. The Russian people seek a democratic system. Yeltsin is the first elected Russian leader in a thousand years of Russian history. They have no tradition of free elections. No entrepreneurial class.
3. Think what is at stake. If Russia succeeds, dictatorships around the world will see what can be done. If Russia fails, it could lead to more dictatorships.
4. Can democratic capitalism in Russia compete with Communistic capitalism in China?
5. We live in an exciting time. In the future, there wouldn't be a global nuclear war. There may be an increase in small wars, and some of those may be nuclear. The next century will be an exciting one. Progress will be made on poverty and hunger. There will be great technological advances. It can be a century of political freedom.
6. The earth is a generous mother. It will provide abundance if we will cultivate her, the soil, in peace and justice.
7. Regarding the role of the United States, many Americans are tired of the burden, but if we don't provide leadership, who will? Germany? France? Russia? China? Japan? The United Nations? Those are the only viable alternatives. The United Nations can't do it. Parliaments can only paralyze policy, not make it.



8. Herb Stein once said the United States is a rich country. Not rich enough to do everything, but rich enough to do everything important.
9. Peace and freedom are our responsibility, our great cause. Public service is worth it.

DR/cjb  
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