

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT

December 2, 1974

Where:

Time: 3:41 - 3:45 pm

Alone

I met with the President from 3:41 to 3:45 on the subject of the Press Conference. I asked him if he had received his remarks yet for the opening of the press conference. He said no. I said, well here's what I was given and I said the Press Conference is at 7:30 and my understanding was that he wanted two p opening statements, one domestic and one foreign and he said that's what he wants. He then called in Hartmann and said, where is it. Hartmann then came in with his and said, that's what happens when it goes through the system. Hartmann then left and I l blew my stack and said, that that's plain nonsense. It didn't have a damn thing to do with going through the system, in fact, it didn't go through the system -- that I had to beg, borrow or steal my copy of the thing and it was 4:00pm and you have known you are going to have a press conference for a month and it is a damn sloppy way to run a railroad. In short, I blew my stack which I haven't done with him yet but I went right through the ceiling.

I also told him that on Air Force One I had been writing up the cable he asked me to send to Walker on the Librarian of Congress and Hartmann looked down and said what's that--"your version of the tapes" and I said, I don't have to put up with that nonsense and I am not going to.

I told the President that Governor Dunn--that Seidman had cancelled out on Governor Dunn, the Republican Governor and I told Seidman he had to reagree and go tomorrow. The President said he agreed completely with me.

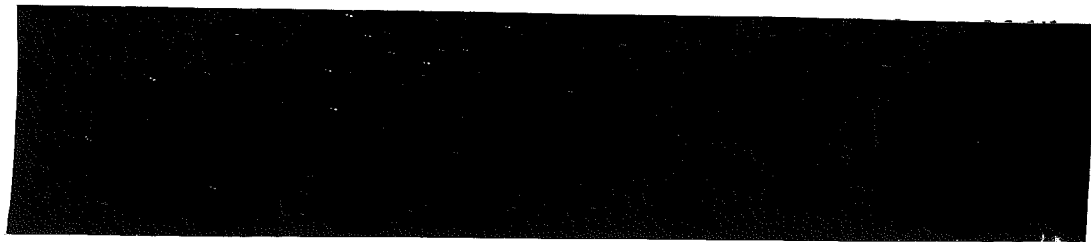
I told him I wanted to get moving on the Voting Rights Bill. He said ok.

I said that Cole had called me and wanted to know when he should be thinking about going off the payroll. The President said he wanted him to work through January 31, off the payroll ,March 1 if that's his request. I said fine, I've got the action to call Cole.



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Scott also told me he was sounding out Saxbe on a good Embassy, and he talked to me about the Election Commission which I told the President. The importance of the membership --that Rhodes was going to appoint Vern Thompson, the Speaker was going to appoint Bob Tiernan--probably didn't need anymore of Congress but they need a good Democrat. The President mentioned possibilities of Ogilvie and Fred Scriebner. DICK CHENEY you've got the ACTION to talk to Walker and find out where we stand on this Election Commission and get some names up.

