

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

From Secretary Schlesinger

February 6, 1974, 3:15 p.m.

On Wednesday, February 6, at 3:15 p.m. when McAuliffe and I were both in the office, Schlesinger called me.

He said that John Warner may be leaving. He emphasized "may." He said that he knew that Marty had talked to me about any possible interest in ISA and that I didn't seem to feel it was right for me. However, he said, if John leaves, the Navy job would be available and he wanted to know my view. He went on to say that he gathered from Kissinger that I might be leaving in July, and I said that that was not quite correct, and he said well something like that, and in any event he wanted my reaction. He said that he feels that the Navy would be a good spot, and that he is looking for a person who is active and articulate and has stamina, can withstand pressures from the uniformed service, and he feels that I fit the bill.

I thanked him very much for calling and said I would like to think about it. He said he hoped I would. Then Hoffman walked into the office and he said, "Well, here is Hoffman, let me put him on." So he put Hoffman on, and Hoffman kind of just gassed around for a minute or two, and said he thought I ought to do some traveling and come back and talk about it. I said I would be in touch with him on that. Then Schlesinger got back on the phone and we talked a little bit more about the Navy thing. There were long silences. The connection wasn't perfect and there was no easy gift of gab. It was kind of a halting thing. Schlesinger kept expecting me to fill the silences by saying -- gee that is wonderful, but I didn't.

We then talked about the targeting briefing, and I said it had gone very well, and there was no opposition. I mentioned the Economist article and he said, "Yes, he had read it and it was right on the line.

I then raised the question of force goals and told him I thought it needed a boost from him.

We talked about burden sharing.

We talked about the 104. He said he is about ready to contact some of these countries and tell them that if they went for a French product on that, that would just about fix the Congress in terms of infuriating them. I asked him if he had contacted Kissinger on this. He said, "No." He is thinking of bringing



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that up when they have breakfast next week.

Then he said to me, "Don, I want you to feel free to pick up the phone and call me anytime. Stay in touch."

On reflection, he has told me that about five times and I have never called him and he has called me several times. Maybe we ought to be doing a little bit more of that.

I thanked him for sending out General Welch on the targeting briefing and said that it was very helpful.

