

DRAFT

Conversation No. 813-23

Date: November 8, 1972

Time: 11:58 am - 11:59 am

Location: Oval Office

Participants: Richard M. Nixon; H.R. Haldeman

In a brief conversation in the Oval Office between President Nixon and Chief of Staff Bob Haldeman, Nixon summarizes his plans for a second term cabinet reshuffle moments before Haldeman meets with the cabinet to inform them of the president's plans.

Nixon tells Haldeman, "I want them to know. I want everybody to submit their [letters of resignation], it'll be only fair [way] to do it, and that's simply that I wanted to get their advice within a week or so about what their own plans were, what we ought to do in their departments, and so forth, and so on. I've got it pretty well laid out."

Nixon: [John] Volpe's problem is that he's going to South America now [unclear]. But it [unclear] I suppose.

Haldeman: Right.

Nixon: So nobody can reorganize his [Transportation] Department. Are you going to go in now?

Haldeman: Yeah.

Nixon: The meeting? Fine.

Haldeman: Sitting in?

Nixon: No, no, fine, fine. Bill [Rogers] trotted into the business about resignations, everybody should do it—

Haldeman: Oh, while you were there?

Nixon: Yeah. I don't know whether it's clarified [but] I'd like them all to do it. [Unclear] I want them to know. I want everybody to submit their [letters of resignation], it'll be only fair [way] to do it, and that's simply that I wanted to get their advice within a week or so about what their own plans were, what we ought to do in their departments, and so forth, and so on. I've got it pretty well laid out. I said I would talk to them individually within a week to 10 days, maybe the next two weeks.

Haldeman: Good.

Nixon: How's that sound?

Haldeman: Good. That's perfect.

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Nixon: Fine.

Haldeman: I'll catch them.

Nixon: You're all finished with your...?

Haldeman: Yeah. Now when [unclear]

Nixon: Good.