

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS STAFF**Tape Subject Log***(rev. 10/06)*

Part of a telephone conversation between President Nixon in his office in the Old Executive Office Building and H. R. Haldeman between 9:20 pm and 9:30 pm on April 28, 1971.

Conversation No. 42-73

President: Nothing new on the demonstrating front tonight, is there? I guess everything went according to plan?

Haldeman: No, they, they arrested that bunch, and that's, uh, that's the principle. They hauled two hundred of 'em in today. That --.

President: Well, uh, did that leave many left? Uh, they don't have many in town, do they?

Haldeman: Oh, yeah, it still leaves quite a bunch.

President: Yeah.

Haldeman: Rainwater cut loose today in his, uh --.

President: Anybody pay any attention to him?

Haldeman: Yeah, it, it moved on the wire. And I don't know what more, I haven't had the follow-up report.

President: You mean about the networks not covering it?

Haldeman: Yeah.

President: Yeah.

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Haldeman: He said he had requested, uh, uh, you know, equal-time coverage for VFW encampment of V-, of Vietnam veterans on the Mall.

President: Um-hum.

Haldeman: And, uh, he said the coverage of the protesting veterans had been complete overkill. He told the networks that his veterans would establish a campsite, march to Arlington Cemetery - this time with the flag flying right side up - and lobby in Congress for increased benefits for veterans, just as the protesters did. He talked personally to the president of CBS and he said he couldn't guarantee thirty seconds of coverage, much less the amount given the protesting veterans.

President: Well, he shoulda had the amount they gave them. Well, anyway, that, that woulda been good. Well, anyway.

Haldeman: But, he, well --

President: He had --.

Haldeman: -- he may have in what he put out, this is just --.

President: Yeah.

Haldeman: The wire thing carried --

President: That's all right.

Haldeman: -- made the point of the number of veterans he has 'n' that sort of thing. So he's

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laid the groundwork on that. The-, Teague is going ahead with his hearing.

President: What=s he gonna have a hearing about?

Haldeman: He's gonna get, uh, a group of, uh, the, uh, good veterans in representing the [clears throat], the, uh, Coalition of Vietnam Veterans for a, a Lasting Peace.

President: Um-hum.

Haldeman: So --.

President: So there is such a thing, huh?

Haldeman: Well, they're forming one --

President: Um-hum.

Haldeman: -- which'll be the, the Vietnam segments of each of the Legion and VFW 'n', and, uh, Catholic 'n' Jewish 'n' DAV 'n'

President: Good.

Haldeman: -- so on --

President: Good.

Haldeman: -- and, uh, so Teague's gonna set up a hearing with television to hear their side of the story.

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President: Yeah, that's fine. Good, good, okay.