

MEMORANDUM

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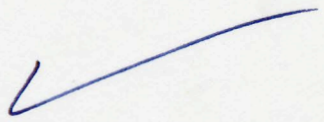
FEB 26 1970

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Files Ed

February 20, 1970



MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *A*

SUBJECT: Senator Russell's Remarks

Attached is the transcript of the remarks made by Senator Richard Russell at the dinner honoring him at the Washington Hilton Hotel on February 10. You mentioned that you would like to see a transcript of this powerful statement.

Attachment

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RECEIVED
WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF
GENERAL COUNSEL

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT AND
SENATOR RICHARD RUSSELL, AT A DINNER HONORING
THE LATTER, INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM, WASHING-
TON HILTON HOTEL, February 10, 1970

* * * *

SENATOR RUSSELL: Mr. President, your presence here has been the capstone of the evening. But your kind and gracious words completely overwhelm me.

I am grateful to you, indeed. And I am glad to have them from a Republican President, who is an American before he is a Republican.

There is little I can say to such a lavish tribute. I can say that I only wish that I could deserve it all. But it is good to have it coming from the President of the United States.

I believe it was Horace who said that it is sweet to be praised by those who are themselves praised. And the record that President Nixon has made in the relatively short time that he has served as President has been tremendously reassuring to the people of these United States. They have confidence in his intentions and in his ability. And each day, as his program unfolds, they see that it is in the national interest.

There is little more that I can say. No one has yet invented or devised a superlative for thank you. So I will have to content myself by saying thank you, Mr. President, from the bottom of my heart.

Thank you.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 17, 1970

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MEMORANDUM FOR HENRY KISSINGER

FROM: Al Haig

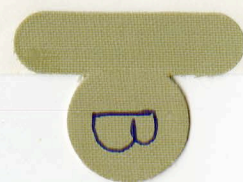


In his telephone conversation with you on February 10, the President mentioned that he would like to see the transcript of Senator Russell's remarks at the dinner you both attended on that evening (Tab B).

In case you wish to follow up on the President's request, there is a brief memorandum for your signature at Tab A attaching Senator Russell's remarks.

Attachments

A



TELECON

Mr. Kissinger

The President

2/10/70; 10:30 p.m.

P asked how K enjoyed the Russell thing -- said he didn't know K went to such things. K said he went along because of Russell working with us on the Armed Services Committee. P said he was terribly moved by Russell's statement. K said yes, for Russell to say what he did about a Republican President! P said Russell said it in such a patriotic way. P said we ought to get the transcript of that powerful statement. K said he told Bryce that it was a moving occasion.

P said as a group, those Southerners have more patriotism than any other thing. P said the only thing we differed on with them was the school thing. P said he thought we should take another look at the integration thing. P said he thought we should talk to Schultz and Garment and bring them into line. K said he thought it had become a self-defeating thing. P said the North is de facto segregated -- they talk about having their kids go to a school that has blacks..... P said he didn't think it would work with the lower classes. K said and to challenge the mores in such a way. P said he was concerned that this was an emotional issue that could destroy our ability to work on other things. P said when you see a guy like Russell talking, you think we should have him on our side. P said Stennis, too. P said New York City is a tinderbox. K said yes, very few families send their children to high schools in New York anymore -- they send them to private schools. K said he would much rather deal with Stennis than Goodell or Percy -- you know exactly where Stennis stands.

P said with regard to the Mansfield meeting in the morning, spend time on the Toxin thing. P said he isn't going to leak it. K said we could tell him we still have to bring the Joint Chiefs around. P said to ask him what he thinks about it -- act as if we are still working on it. P said the other thing he is greatly interested in is China and you might tell him how our meetings have evolved. P said tell him you have opened the possibility of other channels. K said that's risky. K said he thought Mansfield might mention it to _____. K said we can say we are exploring other channels. P said to ask him if he has any ideas on this -- we have to find something to talk about. P asked what if the ABM comes up. K said he didn't think he would bring it up since he is so opposed to it. K said if it is brought up, we can say we have made the decision on the basis that it is fully consistent with what you said last year.

Kissinger/President
2/10/70; 10:30 p.m.

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P said undoubtedly Mansfield will be against us and in the end he will be -- it flatters him. P said he would like to hang over him the idea that we are moving in a direction that he doesn't know about -- that's probably the way to get to him. P said he would try to turn the conversation in such a way that K does a lot of the talking. P said we know there are certain areas that he will not agree with us. P said tell Mansfield that as a result of his report we have mandated all our Ambassadors to follow the Nixon Doctrine -- people are now beginning, we think, to understand it. K said he would be pleased with the general approach to China. P said we will play a little of his game, which will make him uncomfortable. P said he didn't want him to say we have not continued to dialogue, and just the fact that we have talked to him makes the record. If it comes up in the future, we have that hanging over him. K said basically he is not a bad guy. P said he has to do this -- the Democrats are divided -- his interests were with Teddy. P said maybe he thinks they can resurrect Teddy. K said he didn't see it by '72.