

APPEALS PANEL ACTION: RELEASED IN FULL

SH 105

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TELECON

Secretary Schlesinger/Secretary Kissinger

January 7, 1976

Time: 7:25 p.m.

S: How are you?

K: O.K.

S: You had a long respite in some place?

K: In Jamaica. How are you?

S: I have plenty of time for relaxation. I finished an article for Fortune magazine all hell fire and damnation.

K: On what?

S: We have to keep up Defense spending -- the whole world counts on us, that sort of thing. The same general message about screwing up the intelligence community.

K: I tell you we are watching the collapse of American responsibility.

S: I couldn't agree with you more.

K: It doesn't do any good to have force if you don't use it. What we are doing in Angola is outrageous.

S: Are the Russians willing to play ball with us on Angola? I would imagine not.

K: They were, but not now after the Senate vote. Why worry if your opponent can't spend any more money there.

S: I would not if I were they. That theme is the one you mentioned -- I tried to put it in Fortune. I tried to kick the business community for being naive. I also tried to find an upbeat ending, but I am afraid I couldn't.

K: I look forward to reading it. I suggested lunch a few weeks ago, but you couldn't make it. Would you like to have breakfast some day.

S: How about next week?

K: I was going to suggest Saturday, but we could do it next week.

S: Why don't I have my girl get in touch with your girl. You will find that retirement is not all together bad -- I don't suggest that you will find that out immediately.

K: If I could find a decent way to do that. I eagerly answer phone calls on Sunday these days.



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S: You ought to see if you could resign if you manage to pull off a SALT agreement. One can never tell but I think the political future in this Ford Administration seems to be sinking and more importantly the Congress is cutting up the national security people. From what I have heard, there will be some cutting up on Rummy on the Defense budget.

K: It is hard to cut someone who yields on the first hill.

S: It has alot of phoniness in it. It will make the Appropriations Committee very mad.

K: I am going to a dinner which I have not dressed for yet. Do you prefer lunch or breakfast?

S: Oh, I prefer breakfast -- if you could find a parking space for me.

K: That is no problem -- just drive your car into the basement, we will take care of you.

S: I have never done that before.

K: Why don't we just set a date?

S: Tuesday would be fine. Can I get my girl to confirm it?

K: Yes, do it tomorrow.

S: How are you feeling?

K: I feel o.k. I miss you.

S: I thought you would.

K: Unbelievable that I long for a good row with someone who knows what he is talking about.

S: Right.

K: I look forward to seeing you.

S: Good.