

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 ^{group} 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.