

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State and
Assistant to the President for National Security
Affairs
Amb. Donald Rumsfeld, Assistant to the President
John O. Marsh, Jr., Counsellor to the President
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to
the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Friday, February 21, 1975
4:04-4:46 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House

President: The question is how to plan how to meet the investigation on the CIA. It was my thought that I shouldn't urge it, you shouldn't, none of us should.

Rumsfeld: There will be six months to a year of a lot of work involving a number of agencies. This is not paydirt, but a damage-limiting operation for the President. We need a focal point here.

Kissinger: I agree.

Marsh: There is another aspect. We're being hit with privileged resolutions.

Obviously we need someone to corral this Silberman.

The President might bill him for CIA, or vice versa.

Rumsfeld: The Attorney General, Ruckelshaus, Areeda, or someone from outside, preferably a Democrat. Goodpaster.

Kissinger: Silberman would be a good Director of CIA.

[Marty Hoffman, Bill Hyland, and George Vest were also mentioned. The decision was for Silberman under a policy group of Kissinger, Schlesinger, Colby, the Attorney General and Marsh.]