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**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM: Henry A. Kissinger**

**SUBJECT: Talking Points for Your Meeting with Former Governor  
John B. Connally, Friday, December 4, 1970, at 10:00 am**

Background

This will be your first meeting with Governor Connally since his appointment to the PFIAB. He has practiced law in Houston for the past year with the firm of Vinson, Elkins, Searlys and Connally. He has also served as a member of the President's Advisory Council on Executive Organization, known as the Ash Council.

Talking Points

You may wish to tell Governor Connally that you are delighted he has agreed to join PFIAB and that you believe we need a man of his experience to help take a long-needed hard look at the intelligence activities of this government. You might want to express to him the view that the intelligence community appears to you to be in a bad state and to need a real overhauling. You could mention the following specifics:

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-- The whole estimates process which too often serves up a consensus apparently more aimed at burying real differences of view than in presenting the President with legitimate and necessary alternate interpretations of intelligence judgments.

You might wish to conclude your remarks by emphasizing the need for a tough-minded review not only of the intelligence organization but of the men who currently hold the top jobs in that field. In this regard, you can express again your appreciation for the insight and honesty of judgment which Governor Connally brings to this task and you can tell him that you know of no other job in Washington which needs doing as badly or which is more important to the proper conduct of our defense and foreign policy.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOVEMBER 30, 1970

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced the appointment of former Texas Governor John B. Connally as a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. The appointment will become effective on December 1, 1970.

Governor Connally, who was born in Floresville, Texas, in 1917, received his law degree from the University of Texas. During World War II he served in the Navy in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theatres. A former Administrative Assistant to the then Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, he was appointed by President Kennedy as Secretary of the Navy, and after a year in that position resigned to run successfully for the Governorship of Texas in 1962. He was reelected in 1964 and again in 1966.

Since the expiration of his third term as Governor in 1969, Connally has practiced law in Houston with the firm of Vinson, Elkins, Searls and Connally. He has also served as a member of the President's Advisory Council on Executive Organization, known as the Ash Council.

Governor Connally is married to the former Idanell Brill. They have three children: John B. III, Sharon, and Mark.

The present Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board was reconstituted and reorganized by President Nixon on March 20, 1969. It was originally established by President Eisenhower in 1956 as the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities, and was continued by Presidents Kennedy and Johnson as the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

Composed of a non-partisan group of distinguished private citizens, the Board performs a continuing review of all foreign intelligence and related activities conducted by the Departments and Agencies of the U. S. Government. It is responsible for advising the President on the overall national intelligence effort and for recommending to him appropriate measures to increase the effectiveness of the U.S. intelligence community.

The Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board is composed of ten members and is chaired by Admiral George W. Anderson, Jr., USN (Retired), former Chief of Naval Operations and U.S. Ambassador to Portugal.

The Executive Secretary of the Board is Mr. Gerard P. Burke.

In announcing the appointment of Connally, the President noted the highly important role of intelligence in the overall national security of the United States and emphasized his reliance on the Board for non-partisan objective appraisals of all the foreign intelligence activities of the government.