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102740	TRANSCRIPT	OF TAPE 3	34	3/30/1981	B1
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TAPE NO. 3 - 30 March 1981

VOICE: We also have the Deputy Premier of Poland coming on thursday.

VOICE: Jagielski, yeh, oh sure, we can go ahead, all those are manageable

BACKGROUND VOICES: (couldn't make it out)

VOICE: There are many different angles, it depends on the network obviously.

VOICE: The one that Deaver was in was really

VOICE: Boy Deaver got, they just missed him by a hair.

VOICE: Yeh, but it looked like he was shot

VOICE: He tried to wave just as the bullet went by

VOICE: No, I don't think it is, that's too big a bore, that's somebody elses weapon.

VOICE: Yeh, I don't think that's, it's bigger than a 22

VOICE: Hello Jim

VOICE: About 27 minutes til the Vice President's in. Is there any

VOICE: See whether the plane is going to land on time.

VOICE: Mr. _____, is he in here (woman's voice)

VOICE: No he's not in here ma'am.

VOICE: Would it be ok if I ran down to the (President's?) briefing room?

VOICE: Yeh, I think that's a good idea. Where is he at now?

VOICE: He's at half hour round.

VOICE: Half hour? Ok.

VOICE: I think we have everybody that we need here.

VOICE: One, briefing on the status of the President, which

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will be the best we've gotten over the telephone. Hopefully his hotline will be open. Status on the shift of authority, which Fred can brief him on. Status of our defense forces.

VOICE: Cap, got something to _____?

VOICE: Status of public statements and I guess we should give him some recommendations on whether or not he should make a statement, cause he's not going to be seen. He's been smuggled aboard, he's going to be smuggled into a hangar at Andrews, and he's going to be smuggled all the way in here, so nobody know's if he's alive or not.

VOICE: I think, I think that probably something should happen, but he should not go over to the hospital.

VOICE: Then, he's discussed the pros and cons of visiting the President. Jim Baker feels he, I talked to him about it, that he (another voice: stay here) ought to stay abroad at Andrews at Andrews until such time as we get him out of the recovery or

VOICE: It's 25 minutes from now, there are 10 minutes more.

VOICE: It's even critical now in its succession.

VOICE: That we not have them both in the same place. I think that would be the recommendation, but it's something he would want to discuss with you.

VOICE: Latest intelligence, if any, and that's FBI/CIA. Again, there must be some concern, he's mentioned it to Al. If the Soviets were ever going to make a move in Poland, this might be a damn good time to do it. Congressional visits, we've got them on hold at the moment, right?

VOICE: No, no, no, I said I was in touch with the Vice President (the rest garbled). Get that straightened out right away.

VOICE: And I think that he'll be looking for your advice on what to do on that.

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VOICE: The status of Mrs. Reagan and the family, right now we only have one of the children taken care of. Then, your recommendations on tomorrow's schedule, and Dick Allen had some good suggestions on that. And then the cancellation of the trip, which I think we should cancel to Geneva and let

VOICE: Or substitution thereof.

VOICE: Let Jeane Kirkpatrick go instead.

VOICE: Right.

VOICE: Then, this question about signing the dairy bill, I don't know, I think puts us, puts the onus on us.

VOICE: It's a, it may be more than the dairy bill, nothing earthshaking, but it may be also one that's due today, we're checking on it, the GSP determination. It has a 90-day run, may be out today. Justice is checking at the moment. At any rate, today, late today or tomorrow we'll have to make a determination whether an _____ to get those _____.

VOICE: Now, do you need that letter before he can signed before he can sign a bill?

VOICE: Well, there has to be some mode of delegation, let's put it that way.

VOICE: During the Eisenhower years, there were certain things that Ike could approve by nodding.

VOICE: Um huh.

VOICE: (garbled) getting that together for me right now. But usually its the definitive things that require the signature of the President that he can't acquiese he can't delegate.

VOICE: I think we can cover those things

VOICE: And the best thing on that issue, is when the President can sit up in bed and say look I'm going to be laid up for

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awhile and signs that thing if we're going to do it. But not any other way, not the other way, and we are not in a situation that requires it.

VOICE: Yep

VOICE: The only question in my mind was this bill.

VOICE: He may be able to sign it. He may be able to sign tomorrow. It sounds odd, but he may

VOICE: even if he can sign the thing

VOICE: He has the legal shift of his authority.

VOICE: Well, that's a little more sticky. I mean, either he's President or he isn't, he can't shift authority. He can under certain circumstances delegate his authority to do certain things.

VOICE: No, he can shift, well

VOICE: Well, he can delegate

VOICE: Well the experts right here, we just read that law

VOICE: He can, he can because

VOICE: Under the amendment

VOICE: On a temporary basis

VOICE: He can delegate, but I mean he's either President or he isn't. He cannot do it half way.

VOICE: Oh yes, I think we're all talking about the same thing. He's not advocating his position, he's temporarily incapacitated.

VOICE: Yeh, incapacitated.

VOICE: Yeh, but it isn't necessary for him to do anything other than delegate authority to sign one bill if indeed it's the last day.

VOICE: On that, if I may say, that requires a signature. If he can sign that, he can sign the bill.

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VOICE: Yeh that's right, if there's only one bill.

VOICE: If you're talking about the specific delegation, any time he does a specific delegation, he could have done the real thing himself, so you might as well have him do the real thing. And the real question then just turns to, can he do that?

VOICE: But the law does provide for him to shift his authority to the Vice President.

VOICE: Oh yes, but that's a completely different thing. That has to be handled in accordance

VOICE: Yeh, yeh, not from a bill. If he considers himself to be completely incapacitated

VOICE: Oh sure, there are two ways you can do that, but that's a different matter.

VOICE: Cap, Cap, one of the, why don't you have, I was going to suggest that you have an MECC or someone just brief you so you'll be in a position to brief the Vice President when he comes here on the status. Do you need any more information sent over? We have LDX facility right here in case you want any check points.

VOICE: No I'll get a secure line. I have a late report about half an hour ago.

VOICE: The Vice President's due in now.

VOICE: Well, Dan just went through a sequence of things that's good. The status of the President, the question of a transfer of authority, if any, status of defense forces, status of public statements, etc., so you would be on early and Bill Casey's probably out checking now.

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VOICE: Have you thought through, I know you say you know how, but if he can't sign tomorrow. I can't believe after going through this operation, he's going to be signing something tomorrow. Whatever it is, delegation of authority or a bill. So, you need to know precisely how you get it enacted because -- you have it all figured out?

VOICE: Yeh, you know, both Ed and Jim Baker are very conscious of this problem, and there going to be in and the Vice President is going to be here. All I'm saying is I don't think we should try to think for them on this, and it's awfully not to have speculation on that subject.

VOICE: No but I do think Al it's important to know what the alternatives are. And the idea that the President can sort of shove off certain of his powers and not all of it is a mistake. It can't be done. He is the President or he isn't, and there are two specific procedures that should be followed in the event that he becomes disabled. And I think it's important for everybody to know what those are. And, it's a little gruesome to think about it because you don't want to think about it, but the fact of the matter is we're in the condition now where we have to think about it.

VOICE: I couldn't agree more Bill, but I think we're shipshape on this unless I'm mistaken, if we want to talk about it.

VOICE: Should we take it from the top so everybody understands it once?

VOICE: If he is in a position to sign himself, he can declare himself temporarily disabled. And he does that by notice to the Speaker and the President pro tem. But that's a full

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transfer. Temporary. A full temporary transfer, right. The second way, and perhaps the one that's most likely, is that in the event that he's not in a condition to sign anything, then the Vice President and a majority of the Cabinet. Now as a matter of fact, that's a nice question too because of the concept of who's the Cabinet. We're talking about the principal executive officers.

VOICE: He's given people Cabinet status.

VOICE: Well, but I'm not sure that people who have been given Cabinet status would be eligible for that purpose. Probably not would be my guess. But in any case, it still is the Vice President and majority and so he is either going to be President or he's going to have to follow one of those, or we're going to have to follow one of those two rules. And there is no inbetween, there's no grey area.

VOICE: Now, Bill, to delegate a specific action, such as the signing of a bill, does that take a written signature from him.

VOICE: Yes, it would, but it depends on the problem, but there is such a thing as

VOICE: Yeh, but that's unnecessary

VOICE: He could sign a bill as well as he could sign, the bill as well as he could sign the authorization.

VOICE Close that door.

VOICE: Cap, that's unnecessary, he can either sign the bill or

VOICE: Well, no what I meant is if he's not able to sign he could give oral designation to somebody like the Vice President.

VOICE: The President's in good shape. They have, I don't know whether they've put a statement out over there or not, I assume they haven't, the surgery is, their probably finishing up now, in about another 10 minutes. They found nothing in the abdominal

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cavity, they opened up his chest and found some bleeding in one lung. They've stopped that bleeding, they've removed the bullet, the fragment of the bullet, and, fragment, looked like it was a ricochet, and he is in, the prognosis is better than good, but they wouldn't say very good. I mean they said it'll be good or better, we can't tell you that right now. He will go directly to intensive care and probably be there over night and should be in pretty good shape tomorrow, depending upon the extent of medication they use. Jim Brady's condition is not good at all and he's still undergoing surgery and he took a shot right in the brain. They say the agent's condition is good, the Secret Service guy.

VOICE: Why did they do the abdominal?

VOICE: Well, I can't tell you that. They said that's their standard procedure in a wound of this type.

VOICE: Bleeding I think.

VOICE: Yeh, see if

VOICE: Mr. Baker, I have Ed Meese for you (woman's voice).

VOICE: Are you satisfied with the doctors?

VOICE: Yeh.

VOICE: Well

VOICE: Is Peter _____ in here.

VOICE; He's not in here.

(They were listening to the broadcast)

VOICE: Laughter at the broadcasters remarks re:"The best remark of all was to the doctors, "Please tell me if you are Republican."

VOICE: The President is not out of surgery, the surgery is not over.

VOICE: Larry, you want to turn that down a little?

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VOICE: The surgery probably won't be over until around 6:20.

VOICE: That's another five minutes.

VOICE: The next statement should come from the doctors over there, and I imagine they'll make that within the next 15 or 20 minutes, a medical statement generally to the effect of what I've just told you.

VOICE: Jim, the Vice President will be here shortly so it's good that you're here because we've got a number of decisions and updatings to do to be sure

VOICE: We have some recommendations, for example, on the schedule Dan Murphy has gone through a list of things and we also suggested that tomorrow that there be an early briefing in the morning for the Vice President, national security, a meeting with the Cabinet earliest, followed by a meeting with the leadership, and a suggestion of expanded leadership meeting beyond the Republicans obviously, and then we have the Von Ocht business and Al's recommendation and ours that we go ahead with that meeting with the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, a working lunch.

VOICE: Ok, I think that's find. I can say this, I'm confident that it would be his view if he were conscious that he wouldn't want this blown up.

VOICE: Mr. Baker, I've got Mr. Meese.

VOICE: Ok, I'll be right there. So to the extent, Fred, that we cannot get ourselves involved in questions of succession and incapacity and that sort of thing, because frankly, I think that the President will be in a position tomorrow morning to make a decision if he had to make a decision.

VOICE: There's an issue on a bill maybe two that must be

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signed tomorrow, and that forces our hand.

VOICE: That has to be signed tomorrow or it doesn't become law?

VOICE: Yes, the dairy bill and

VOICE: If he says sign it, he can sign it, you've got a machine don't you, all he has to do is say yes.

VOICE: But why is tomorrow so critical? Unless it is actually signed?

VOICE: Garbled. You lose your bill and price increase

VOICE: Machine won't work. Machine won't work. They'll blow that one

VOICE: Not in this context.

VOICE: That's all he has to say is sign it.

VOICE: They'll want to know exactly how his hand moved, and his signature, and his thumb, and so on and so forth. Historic signature.

VOICE: ETA is 1830

VOICE: 1830, ok, that's the Vice President.

VOICE: You think we could get a stu in here?

VOICE: I'll take care of it for you.

VOICE: He's uh, os the service will be taken care of and the police will be taken care of.

VOICE: Is anybody in our organization taking an interest in it?

VOICE: Yes, we have the family of the President, Jim Brady's family, (garbled) will take care of all of it.

VOICE: I'm just saying, I think we should have a response to the family of the police officer that was shot, Secret Service, and somebody in the top level of this Administration should express

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an interest and either George Bush should give them a call or somebody should follow up on that.

VOICE: Yeh, I'm concerned that nobody's following up on these lesser lights. Jim Brady, I think we're all concerned about, but I think we should get the Vice President or somebody to call the family of that policeman and that other person, that Secret Serviceman, in some recognition of our concern. AT a top level. I assume that Brady's family, his ex-wife and everybody's taken care of,

VOICE: Yeh, their enroute.

VOICE: And somebody's following up with them and taking care of

VOICE: But is anybody in our group expressing concern for them?

VOICE: The point I'm making here, is some of us here don't have the same role to play as others and if we could be helpful in that area, you should use us.

VOICE: I think that's right, but I would be careful on _____ doing that.

VOICE: Well, let's do this. Why don't you go out there and call on my duty phone and get him because I think we've got a CP now (garbled). Get him and let's see if we can coordinate this.

VOICE: One thing we want to do is get the doctor out.

VOICE: Yeh, but he can't, see they don't want to do it until they finish the operation.

VOICE: Had Hodsoll arrived before you left.

VOICE: Arrived where?

VOICE: At the hospital?

VOICE: I didn't see Hodsoll

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VOICE: Jim, substantially, they're finishing the surgery, they're closing the wound?

VOICE: Yes, their closing, they had to open the chest and that takes a lot of time to do that. And they're closing that now and they ought to be finished at 6:30 or so.

VOICE: Jim, the Speakers' asked for Secret Service coverage, and that in itself has some potential splash.

VOICE: I just told Don our recommendation is to call him back and fuzz it up and tell him you'll get back to him first thing in the morning, as soon as we see how the situation looks.

VOICE: Yeh, same with me, right.

VOICE: Jim and Al and Cap, could I see you all a second just up in my office?

(Background noise, broadcast, etc.)

VOICE: You've got the only copy right here, tight situation and we're not going to give any of those out and we should not talk about it in there.

(Garbled talk, pick that up in the full session Dan, so hold that close so nobody else has a look at it.

VOICE: Give this to him on the phone and he can follow it or not, At least he has some idea what we're worried about.

VOICE: Well Jim, were you in there, Jim was just in there when we were talking about it. He knows.

VOICE: Any word on the Vice President?

VOICE: 1830, five minutes of.

VOICE: Cap, are you leaving for there?

VOICE: No.

VOICE: It'll take George another 30 minutes.

VOICE: Remember the timing on that Cap.

VOICE: Yeh, he will.

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VOICE: Jim, how's the Brady situation? Not good?

VOICE: No change on any

VOICE: Is he on some kind of life sustaining

VOICE: He's still in surgery, he's still in surgery.

VOICE: That's from the Military Command Center, and it asks for any reports of any unusual activities in any parts of the world and all the _____ have been called, there is no indication of any change. The one submarine that was closest to Washington, Soviet sub, has moved 30 seconds farther away from their ability to come in and there is no

VOICE: Farther or closer?

VOICE: Farther from Washington by 30 seconds. Their closer to _____ Air Force Base oddly enough. All the NORAD sensors are green and no NORAD activity, NORAD simulated exercise with a simulated incoming missile attack for tomorrow has been cancelled and there is no other intelligence anywhere, any of the commanders in any point of any unusual activity.

VOICE: We've also cancelled the Presidential succession exercise

VOICE: I suppose you did hear what he said when they wheeled him in? When they whelled him out of where he got the first, you know he walked into the hospital on his own, didn't know he was shot.

VOICE: Did he know he was bleeding?

VOICE: Did not know, evidently, thought that he had been because they shoved him in the car so hard that he busted his rib, and walked in and just collapsed. Just all of a sudden, turned as yellow as this sheet of paper and collapsed and they gave him transfusions of about 4 pints of blood and he came back

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and when Nancy went in to see him, he said "Honey, I forgot to duck."

VOICE: Jim, how about your ride over, what was that like? How long did it take you, did you get a police escort, did you, oh, you were here?

VOICE: I was here.

VOICE: Oh, you didn't go on that ride?

VOICE: We took a Secret Service car.

VOICE: Yeh, I saw you tear out just as I was getting back in the Station Wagon.

VOICE: He was conscious all the whole time, he was conscious the entire time until they actually put him under for the surgery. He winked at us as he went by on the trolley, with the oxygen mask, sort of like that. (Laughter) He really did. That's why I would hope that we don't have to get into these legalistics because tomorrow he'll be able to make a decision and he can say sign it with the autopen and

VOICE: Well, Congress can always reenact that thing in about 15 minutes and start another 10-14 days running

VOICE: Yes, that's true, we hadn't thought of that option. We can take a remission or whatever that might be, 30 days.

VOICE: Yeh, we can always do that.

VOICE: Well George ought to be down right now.

VOICE: 6:30 and Ed is meeting George at his residence and he'll bring him over here. Mike is still at the hospital.

VOICE: Ed's at the hospital too?

VOICE: Ed went over the the VP's residence.

VOICE: Today I had a spooky note. I had semi-scheduled a meeting at 4:30 this afternoon with Jack Warner on the details to discuss procedures from the press standpoint.

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VOICE: Is that right?

VOICE: Discussing why that fellow got so close in the front.

VOICE: You know, it was a 22-year-old kid from Evergreen, Colorado, with a small 22 caliber weapon of some kind

VOICE: With big bullets.

VOICE: But he seemed to be crouching just around the corner. How did he get, that's just what's such a mystery, how did he get so close to him.

VOICE: He got point-blank range. He got point-blank range.

VOICE: He got a lot of people in a short period of time too.

VOICE: How close was the crowd to the limousine at that point?

VOICE: Well, you know where they rope them off as you come out of that Presidential entrance at the Hilton. That side entrance.

VOICE: Did he go over the rope?

VOICE: He was standing right

VOICE: The Vice President's on the ground, 6:30.

VOICE: Larry in here?

VOICE: Yep

VOICE: Well now what do we have besides the bill signing that we've got to deal with.

VOICE: Well we've got, for him, nothing I don't think do you Dick?

VOICE: Did you find anything else about (garbled)

VOICE: What we have is primarily the Netherlands which can be done very simply by, I can do it or if George wants to do it, he can do it.

VOICE: Or you and George together.

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VOICE: All this will be run from the Vice President's office I gather?

VOICE: Same staff assistance here in the White House?

VOICE: Oh yeh, everything remains the same.

VOICE: I'd just like to get cut in more than I normally would but just let it go exactly the way it is.

VOICE: Max, this's gonna blow off your Congressional leaders meeting right after we get the announcement out.

VOICE: I think it's important to get a broader (garbled) overview after the Cabinet. (Garbled)

VOICE: Yeh, I think that'd be the wisest thing to do.

VOICE: Are they your press reports or somebody elses?

Do you want that stuff, otherwise we'll just pitch it?

(Lots of background)

VOICE: Al, Jim, there's some interesting information if I'm not interrupting something. This fellow was apprehended in Nashville on October 9th, trying to get through security with 4 unloaded pistols. October 9th was the day that Carter was also in Nashville and October 8th Mondale had been there. So this looks a little like a Bremer situation. In other words, a fellow who was just going to get somebody, somewhere. So he missed on the Carter thing, and this was his next opportunity. How long was he in town?

VOICE: Here?

VOICE: Here.

VOICE: He was at the, 4 days.

VOICE: Yeh, that's why I think we ought to get a press line put together and a means of controlling it all the way through,

Jim. That's your problem over here and I know you'll do it,

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but I think somebody ought to do something tomorrow that gets this thing in perspective. To preempt some of this potential trouble. It'll come. It'll start tonight.

VOICE: I think personally (garbled) can deal with this, his personal condition and the continuity of government and tomorrow just start moving in

VOICE: I hate to bring this up at this time, but I think whatever you're going to say you should say it before the financial markets open in the morning. See the financial markets closed this afternoon at 3:15 and will reopen at 10:00 in the morning. We should give the initial indications of what you want.

VOICE: See, you have, as soon as you get the leadership out of here, they're all going to go to the mikes anyway.

VOICE: That's right.

VOICE: Well, I think we can go even beyond the leadership and the Cabinet, you can get a line out that way.

VOICE: That's what I'm saying you should. Don't let them be the ones.

VOICE: We've got to get the doctor's report on the prognosis first.

VOICE: That's the most important thing of all.

VOICE: Who the hell put the cameras out there?

(Garbled conversation and background)

VOICE: Now they're going to know what you're doing by just following the (garbled)

VOICE: WMAL helicopter, huh?

VOICE: They shouldn't allow the cameras anywhere within a million miles. (Garbled) the Vice President's helicopter.

This is crazy.

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VOICE: (Garbled) where you're going now and what the next route of motorcade is and they just

(Broadcast again, and background conversation concerning it)

VOICE: Dick, its 2500 North I think they called it or something like that. It's up in the executive offices of the hospital.

VOICE: Is George on the ground at the residence?

VOICE: Should be. I just got off the phone with (garbled). He said they're going to (garbled).

VOICE: At the residence?

VOICE: The Vice President's on his way to the residence?

VOICE: The residence?

VOICE: The observatory.

VOICE: I know, we know he's on his way. He's got a pad there. Yeh, but he's coming down in the tail-end of rush hour the wrong way.

VOICE: We saw him take off. They had the cameras on him. Somehow the cameras got close enough.

VOICE: They did huh?

VOICE: He's out?

VOICE: Yeh, but the doctor's will be ready,, they just finished, they'll be ready in 15 minutes to come out and brief the press.

VOICE: It's exactly what I just gave you. That the prognosis is good, they stopped the bleeding in the lung, they got the bullet. It was not a whole bullet.

VOICE: It must have ricocheted off the car or something?

VOICE: Yeh. So in 15 minutes they'll be making a statement and we can make a, we can let Larry make the same statement from here if you need to.

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VOICE: Think about what, a repeat statement?

VOICE: No, whether the Vice President should say anything.

VOICE: My view in this whole thing, for what it's worth, I think this is shared by the others, is that to the extent we can play this question of succession and incapacity and all that down, let's do it. For instance, the Vice President decided not to land here on the South Lawn, which I think is a good decision. Instead to come into the observatory. And the lower key we can make this the better off we'll be. If we feel a need to get everybody down here tomorrow we can do that.

VOICE: You can posture them better if you have them under control on what they say, rather than to let them speculate. They're gonna talk anyway.

VOICE: Jim I think you owe it to them to give them some type of explanation from the Vice President as to what occurred. I think they'd appreciate it too.

VOICE: What update on the character, you know. There's no plot (garbled).

VOICE: He's on the way in the motorcade.

VOICE: Ok, we can wait until he gets here and then make that decision finally.

VOICE: Somebody mentioned that maybe the Vice President could call the other families.

VOICE: I think that'd be a good idea for him to do that. Call the other families.

VOICE: They're probably all at the hospital, aren't they?

VOICE: Let me ask, does anybody know who's really close to Sara Brady?

VOICE: Pat, my wife,

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VOICE: It would be really, I'll tell you who's over there taking care of Sara, is Otto Wolf, and we've given here whatever support we can by way of cars and all that and they have a two-year-old.

VOICE: Pick her up and go over to the hospital and get her cleared through the Secret Service and ask her if she can do it.

VOICE: Just pass it through the Secret Service that Pat should be admitted and taken to Sara.

VOICE: They've got a two-year-old that somebody ought to take for the night.

VOICE: Has she got him with her?

VOICE: Yeh, I offered to have Susan take him, and she wouldn't do it.

VOICE: How about B. Olmsby wife?

VOICE: Yeh, she's another good friend, that's right.

VOICE: She doesn't have any children, she can go over there.

VOICE: At least we can start out that way. Pat can get there quickler than can. I'll Have Janet cleared through.

VOICE: It'll be good for him to call, if he can, the wives of those people who were shot.

VOICE: Yeh, Rich Williamson has the data on where the families can be reached.

VOICE: What about George also calling Jim Brady's wife.

VOICE: Sara? She's going to stay at the hospital.

VOICE: Be nice if George did that too.

VOICE: (Garble) I think that's great. I'd waite until another bulletin is issued, which will be in 10 minutes.

VOICE: The Vice President should be arriving in about 60 seconds.

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VOICE: Ed'll be with him.

VOICE: Who's all coming in here?

VOICE: The Vice President and Meese I presume.

VOICE: Jim Brady's daughter can't get out of O'Hare. Is there a way that you can get her picked up?

VOICE: Yes.

VOICE: What's the latest with Jim?

VOICE: In 10 minutes there'll be a medical bulletin, the first one issued by the doctor, which will basically say just what Ed told you, which is that the surgery has been completed, the President's condition is good, the bleeding has been stopped, the bullet has been removed. And that will be in about 5 or 10 more minutes.

VOICE: There are questions of is a shift of authority is required. There are two bills that are apparently due tomorrow that require consideration of some sort.

VOICE: My view on that is that we ought to wait and see what these reports are so encouraging it seems to me, at least, that the best thing would be simply to wait and see tomorrow how the President feels and try to, you know, normalcy.

VOICE: I think the important thing is to get tomorrow's schedule and what we do tonight if there's to be more done.

VOICE: We had some suggestions about that but the next thing on Dan's list is the status of defenses.

VOICE: Vice President, I called the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs and the military command center, and at that time, this was within about a half an hour, we didn't know whether it was an isolated incidence or not. Left everything on Detcom 5 which is the normal non-alert condition. ~~is~~ is always on Detcom 4 which

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is the next highest rating. I personally told them to raise that only to the extent of having the crews, moved from the condition where they are restricted, the alert crews are restricted normally to the base. I had them moved to

VOICE: Mr. Vice President, that's the incident.

VOICE: Oh, is that the incident?

VOICE: Had them moved from that to the alert room so the restriction is to the alert room. This saves about 4 minutes.

There was one Soviet submarine within [REDACTED] minutes 57 seconds of ^{3.3(5)4} missile length of Washington. There were four in the box as they say and one outside, which is within this general time zone.

VOICE: Excuse me, would it be appropriate to ask about clearances?

VOICE: Yeh, what are they?

VOICE: I think it might be appropriate to make sure that we've got, I'm not entirely sure that that's right.

VOICE: You're probably right. Do we have everybody with a Top Secret here?

VOICE: Is there anybody here that does not have a Top Secret clearance?

VOICE: Any one without Codeword clearance?

VOICE: If you don't have it then you ought not to be in on this.

VOICE: Yeh, a lot of people don't have codeword.

VOICE: Well, I was just getting into some codeword.

VOICE: Well, let's get it straight now.

VOICE: Well, let's just stand up and ask who doesn't have Codeword clearance.

VOICE: If you don't have codeword clearance, please excuse yourselves for a minute.

VOICE: You guys have ~~codeword~~.

VOICE: We'll just take a few minutes till we finish this section,

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then we'll be alright.

VOICE: I think we need to make sure that we don't break the law right here in the Situation Room. Mouthpiece is that all right?

VOICE: I think it's important that we go into as much of this as possible. I simply that assumed that anyone in this room had all those.

VOICE: We're just continuing.

VOICE: We're at the point about the information about the Soviet submarine's, which is highly classified, codeword clearance, there are four in the box, so called, this is the box off the East coast which is within anywhere from [REDACTED] minutes range of Washington. 3.3 (b)X
Four is more than usual and the one that was [REDACTED] minutes 57 seconds is closer than usual in the box. For that reason, I asked for this increased alert, made no change in the NEACAP because there was nobody from the National Command Authority who was about to board it. They remain on the alert all the time and they difference between 5 minutes or 8 minutes to whether they get in and get the engines going, which I told them not to do. There are now 249 of the bomber crew with this somewhat raised alert and 8 command and control crews with this somewhat increased alert. That it they're waiting and restricted in their restricted areas, as opposed to just being on the base itself. There is no change in any of the intelligence anywhere around the world that we have received. All of the NORAD sensors are green, all the CINCs have been notified and they are on increased personal alert but they have not been told to take any other additional precautions than that. There is no connection established on any kind of, that's [REDACTED] other than simply an isolated

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incident and we can at any point stand the bomber crews down so that their restriction will revert to the base. This is a normal alert condition, so summing it all up, Mr. Vice President, there's nothing, no indication that there is anything other than an isolated incident, but the various armed forces, the various commands have been, commanders have been alerted and are exercising special vigilance without any of the public signs that would indicate any change in the defense position. And Depcom 5 and Depcom 4 are maintained, Depcom 4 for Korea which is normal, and the only change at all is the movement of the bomber crews to the ready room rather than simply being around the post.



3.3 (b)
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VOICE: There's nothing, we wouldn't know anything I guess, in terms of, or do we know?

VOICE: As of this morning, (garbled), we think the situation is better rather than worse, the strike has been postponed and looks like the moderates are at least holding their own if not prevailing.

VOICE: But externally, there's many more indications that we're (garbled).

VOICE: Yeh, I mean there's no indications cable-wise or anything else since this came up?

VOICE: DCI has, Bill, what have you got Bill?

VOICE: Yeh, but since the incident has there been any change of any sort?

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VOICE: No, not since last night.

VOICE: No, no change whatever either in foreign forces or in our own sensories since that. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VOICE: The next item on the check list is the status of Nancy Reagan and the family. Ed, what's happening on that.

VOICE: Mrs. Reagan has been at the hospital and has been kept informed of the President's condition and I believe went to see him when he got out of the post-operative. She had not gone to see him when I left to come over here. The familys all been notified and Helene has been keeping in touch with Peter McCoy who's keeping in touch with them. We made available whatever might be necessary to bring them here at the appropriate time. and the only one who probably will arrive is Ron who just left New York.

VOICE: He's arriving, we have information on his arrival tonight and Mike Reagan was interviewed before you came in on one of the interviews.

VOICE: How is he getting in here? Have we made arrangements to have him picked up?

VOICE: Yes, the Secret Service will pick him up.

VOICE: They have their own detail so that will be facilitated. On a related matter, we have provided the same kind of assistance to Mrs. Brady, Sara Brady, and to the members of her family coming to help her.

VOICE: Plus the other members of the family are on the way, the other wife, first wife and daughter, apparently, are en route from Chicago or has that been

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VOICE: Did you get a plane for them Mike?

VOICE: Yeh, we were double checking to see what she wanted.

VOICE: Ok.

VOICE: What was the latest, maybe I missed it, on Brady, but do we have the latest.

VOICE: Very serious, probably will not survive.

VOICE: And the status of the other families, Rich Williamson has the information on the whereabouts of the other families. It was suggested that you might care as soon as you're free to make a call to each of the families of the Secret Service, to Sara Brady, to Secret Serviceman and to the DC policeman, who took two rounds according to the, at point blank range.

VOICE: Maybe Jim Brady's parents too.

VOICE: Didn't they give his father's condition?

VOICE: His father's seriously ill. Jim's father.

VOICE: What's next.

VOICE: The schedule for tomorrow was the next item in there. There would have been this suggestion if you would agree, that in the morning that we begin with a staff briefing, a national security briefing, a meeting with the Cabinet, a meeting with an expanded Congressional leadership group, then the next event proceed on schedule with the reception for Prime Minister van Agt who is here for a working lunch. There are no other schedule suggestions but that's just for your consideration.

VOICE: My view is the more normal everything is the better it is. I mean, I'd like to see us when we finish this round, not meet for instance in this room I mean go upstairs, unless we're waiting for something extraordinarily sensitive cause it gives the signal that we're all sitting around on the edge

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of some thing, which of course we could understand everybody doing up to a couple of hours ago. But if these reports are as encouraging as they are, it seems to me that as soon as we get into the most normal condition possible, and everybody do his job, the better it is. I like the suggestion about the scheduling and we should just fine tune it if you want with the President's staff but I'm available to do what is necessary.

VOICE: We will spend extra time monitoring the Polish situation tonight, Mr. Vice President, and the only other item that will need to be decided within the next 24 to 36 hours is Secretary haig's trip to the Middle East, which is another

VOICE: That we were waiting on the Polish thing in any event. We have sent a message out to all of the governments originally and we will hold this one until the hospital announces and then we'll send this one.

VOICE: We've had a lot of inbound correspondence, and telegrams and expressions of shock. Mrs. Thatcher was the first one, then we had the King of Jordan and many others, and these are immediate representations to those governments, to all posts.

VOICE: Excuse me, I just wanted to say we have called former Presidents, we've called the leadership both sides and we owe them an update tonight I think, after the prognosis.

VOICE: But the leadership meeting tomorrow would be on this subject, right? I mean just to kind of ensure everybody of where they stand.

VOICE: Secretary Regan had a consideration about the new before the financial market opens.

VOICE: Yeh, I think that you should try to say something reassuring before the market opens at 10:00 tomorrow in New York

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George. Just to make sure that everybody realizes that there's no cover and that the President's recovering, etc. etc. etc.

VOICE: And there has been a strong suggestion that

VOICE: You see, the markets closed early today, as soon as they heard the news they closed the stock market and the bond markets. This was about 3:15.

VOICE: There's a suggestion Dave Gergen?

VOICE: Yes, it will be helpful tomorrow in these two sessions to tell people what we do know so we can stop making _____ stories and that sort of thing quickly.

VOICE: You mean in terms of the Secret Service, intelligence?

VOICE; Bill, what don't you just set up this.

VOICE: You're familiar with who did it?

VOICE: Yeh, but not, what Ed told me and just what I heard on the tube.

VOICE: Well, a 22-year-old who comes from Evergreen, Colorado, was going to school in Lubbock, Texas. He apparently is a Bremer type because we've discovered that on October 9, 1980, he was picked up in Nashville airport, or actually New York, he got on the plane in Nashville, with three unloaded pistols. The significant part of that fact is that President Carter was also in Nashville on the same day, Mondale was there the day before, so apparently he's one of those fellows who's just after somebody of note. As a passing commentary, he was fined a total of \$50 for having accomplished that, that was the total penalty for having carried three guns on a plane. We now have him in Buzzard Point. He's under the jurisdiction of the FBI and we thought that for security reasons, we would have him arraigned by a judge going to prison instead of vice versa, however, the

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chief judge here is a pretty stubborn character, and he refuses to do that. So we're having to bring him in under maximum protection to have him arraigned, which should be around 9:00 tonight if all goes well. Following that, we're going to move him and we've made arrangements with the Secret Service to have a bullet-proof car take him to Quantico, which is a maximum security spot and there he'll be monitored around the clock, both taped and visually to prevent suicide or whatever. And that's the situation as it exists. Now, he apparently has had a psychiatric problem. He, there were two cards in his pocket, one of them saying "call me at any time." He also visited a psychiatrist about a week ago. He so far has refused to comment or talk to anybody. He refuses to sign any waivers and that's the situation as of now.

VOICE: Now it may be just a, thinking of our secretary on the Hill, but she thinks that we've received a letter from a guy with this name from Evergreen, Colorado.

VOICE: (garbled) advised awhile ago, that in fact DoE had an investigation going, they notified this Hinkley, his father this morning, of a \$2 million violation, but the DoE investigator report some altercation with the father on Wednesday. The son "flipped out and took off." So there is a strange linkage. Edwards has provided that information to the FBI.

VOICE: May I suggest that one thing that we might consider doing is an instruction to the Cabinet and anyone else, if all factual type information that belongs to the investigative process be routed not to the public but routed to one place in Justice, and that there be only one authorized point for releasing any information on behalf of the government, that is said to be fact, otherwise we'll

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VOICE: That's right.

VOICE: Plus the fact that you could prejudice the prosecution as well.

VOICE: Mr. Vice President the head administrative doctor at the hospital is going to brief the press in about 5 minutes on both the President and the Secret Service agent who was shot. Jim Brady is still in surgery, the President is in good shape, they expect a rapid recovery and he's going to be very positive as far as the President's physical condition is concerned.

VOICE: As soon as that comes on, let's pick it up.

VOICE: They're also going to say that the next medical bulletin will be tomorrow morning sometime after he's been seen by the doctors.

VOICE: What about the aspect of the Vice President making some appearance before the camera tonight. Just to demonstrate that he's here and that is in the White House.

VOICE: Why don't we see what the medical bulletin is and then how that goes over and take stock at that point.

VOICE: Let me ask you, the weapon was a 22 caliber revolver or automatic.

VOICE: It was a revolver, 6 shots, it was one that took long-rifles, it was a saturday-night kind of thing, it was just a non-descript weapon, they've recovered interestingly enough five of the, including the one that was taken from the President, of the bullets. The sixth they think was shot into the air, so they won't find, so that's a very important thing from a stand-point of investigation, you know, to have those. That way you minimize this business of the Kennedy two assassins speculation. They've got all of them except that one.

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VOICE: Are there any other items on that list?

VOICE: No sir, but we should come back to that schedule matter again so that we can get that signed off what your preference may be. If you follow the normal routine, you'd follow

VOICE: Well, I have no problem with it at all. Yeh, the question is whether that should be handled at the Department, if you want him to come in here, I'll be glad to see him.

VOICE: Well, I think if you can do it, if you don't want to have a working lunch, we can bring him over for a shorter visit.

VOICE: I'm not focused on it myself, so I'm not up to speed.

VOICE: That's Neil Reagan.

VOICE: Is he out in the West?

VOICE: There playing it very carefully.

VOICE: There's been no announcement now at the hospital. This announcement I've just (garbled)

VOICE: The luncheon, that's fine.

VOICE: I'd prefer to keep it as normal as possible.

VOICE: Yeh, do the luncheon. We're backing up again. That means you'd have the normal staff meeting in the morning followed by the National Security briefing and in this case you'd have a Cabinet meeting followed by the Congressional leadership meeting. Now Max, could you tell us how many of those people would be in that meeting.

VOICE: I'd recommend we would invite the combined leadership which would be 13, and I can give you the names of those if you like, and give you a time we can invite those tonight. I would suggest in the House Republicans Michael Lott Kemp and Neil

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Wright Foley, and from the Senate Baker, Stevens and McClure, and Byrd, Cranston, Inoyue.

VOICE: That meeting would follow the Cabinet meeting. What would you need for a cabinet meeting tomorrow morning?

VOICE: What would that be for? Just kind of an information meeting?

VOICE: With the leadership? I think the leadership meeting makes good sense. I wonder really whether a Cabinet meeting does nothing but call attention to the absence of the Presidency and you can talk personally to each Cabinet officer. And if you have a Cabinet meeting I would not think you'd want to have the Photo officer.

VOICE: I would agree, but suppose you were a Cabinet officer who's out of town who hasn't been wired in as the rest of us sitting around here, and there were quite a few of them, I think

VOICE: I think it would be great if they came down and had a briefing with the Vice President in his office, but to call a Cabinet meeting, to my way of thinking calls attention to the fact that the President's in the hospital.

VOICE: I do think that the guy's who are not here as Cabinet officers deserve the same thing as the three men in the house.

VOICE: What have you got Jack?

VOICE: I was just going to say, that your calling the leadership in, that in itself does indicate that you know, we all know that we have a problem here, so I think having a Cabinet meeting and just discussing it with them, I don't think it will cause that much alarm, really. I think it would be a good idea. Most of the Cabinet isn't here, frankly.

VOICE: Let's do it and make it short. Let's inform them of what we're doing.

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VOICE: And above all give them guidance on what they should say. That's an important part of it.

VOICE: All right, well let's do that then, about information and guidance on how to deal with the press and update him on the health and we don't have to have a lot of publicity about it.

VOICE: And one thing I think important about the Cabinet meeting is to say that business as usual cause I think a number of Cabinet officers have been cancelling things because of what's happened.

VOICE: Dan, did you want to say something?

VOICE: Just nail the times down. 8:30 have your regular staff meeting with Jim and Ed and 9:00 the NSC briefing, and 10:00 the Cabinet meeting, 11:00 the leadership meeting, and 12:00 lunch. We can go ahead and get that schedule.

VOICE: You want to go over that again?

VOICE: 8:30 staff meeting, 9:00 NSC briefing, 10:00 the Cabinet meeting, 11:00 the leadership meeting, and 12:00 we'll go to luncheon in the Cabinet room.

VOICE: It's 11:45 arrival on van Agt, so, we can still handle that.

VOICE: 11:45 alone first with the Vice President (garbled).

VOICE: You have a question about (garbled) market, I think earlier in the morning (garbled) very reassuring words.

VOICE: The market opens at 10:00 right. The Cabinet meeting's at 10:00.

VOICE: I suggest the leadership meeting be before the Cabinet.

VOICE: No, I think the Cabinet's sufficient.

VOICE: How about 9:30?

VOICE: Because the Cabinet as such will only last 15 minutes.

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VOICE: I don't think it matters too damn much, but why don't we just do what we do normally? I mean if we're juggling it all around, I mean except to get out the point that Don wants, which is and that point is that we want to have some reassurance out before these markets open. What time would be the best time for that?

VOICE: 9:00 would be the best time.

VOICE: Ok, let's do it. We'll have a meeting, which meeting do you want to do it at?

VOICE: The Cabinet meeting at 9:00. Then you have the Cabinet coming out at 9:30 talking to the press. We'll do the National Security at 8:45 and the staff meeting at 8:30.

VOICE: All right, the Cabinet we'll do just very briefly, 15 minutes, information meeting, and then world will get out.

VOICE: 8:45 national security, and 8:30 staff.

VOICE; Now you've got the action on the (END OF TAPE)

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