

Ehrlichman and William Timmons, Telephone

April 17, 1973 3:50-(?)-4:35 pm

1 Voice: Conversation number thirty eight dash eighty eight. (0.2) Portion of a [9.3]
2
3 telephone conversation (·) between John D. Ehrlichmin ·h en William
4
5 ¹ E. Timmins. (·) °·h° This portion uwas recordid on April seventeenth ·hh
6
7 nineteen sevendy three ·hh at en unknown time between thuree fifty °·hh°
8
9 en four thirdy five p. m.uh
10
11 (7.0) ((dead tape))
12
13 Timm: °H'llo°
14
15 (0.3)
16
17 Ehrl: °Bi:ll,°
18
19 Timm: °J[ohn.°
20 [
21 Ehrl: ² [·kh-kh-kh h]’m tied ↓u:p. Ken you: call Ervin,hh
22
23 Timm: Mmh[m?h
24 [
25 Ehrl: [en just read him: ·p·hhehh the first pa::ge pls the first two lines
26
27 a’ the se↓kkin’ page.↓
28
29 (): | hhmh
30 |
31 (1.2) (0.3)
32 |
33 (Ø): | °°wh-hh°°
34 |
35 (0.2)
36 |
37 (Timm): | °M-hm-mhh°
38

38

¹ William E. Timmons, a Nixon aide, later became part of the “White House ‘defense group’ ...[which met] at nine every morning to plan the President’s response to whatever boils and locusts were then afflicting him. . .[I]t directed all congressional lobbying, press, and public-relations efforts.” (Lukas, p.750).

² Senator Sam J. Ervin of North Carolina introduced a resolution to allocate \$500,000 for a Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities to investigate the Watergate break-in and related allegations, which was unanimously approved by the Senate on February 7, 1973. The televised Hearings opened on May 17, 1973, with Ervin as Chairman.

- 1 (·)
- 2
- 3 (Timm): ·p·k·hheh[hhh
- 4 [
- 5 (Ehrl): [^ohmh[hh^o
- 6 [
- 7 Timm: [hOkhay nuh who's got the ↑copy,=
- 8
- 9 Timm: =Ah [don' ee'n have it t[ih
- 10 [
- 11 Ehrl: [·klk [Uh: [Ron: I] think [hez a co]py I' [ve gotta-]
- 12 [] [] []
- 13 Timm: [°copy°] [Okay<] [First PA]GE,
- 14
- 15 Ehrl: [↓Yeah]
- 16 []
- 17 Timm: [First tw]o li:nes, of the sec'nt pa[ge, ·he]hhhhh
- 18 []
- 19 Ehrl: [Ri:ght?]
- 20
- 21 (·)
- 22
- 23 Timm: Solicit comments?
- 24
- 25 Ehrl: hUh:: pard' me?
- 26
- 27 (·)
- 28
- 29 Timm: Should I ask for c^homments from 'im [^o(er fer poi n t e r s)^o]
- 30 []
- 31 Ehrl: [No: just tell 'im thet th]at's: the:
- 32
- 33 statemen' thet's gonna be made.h[h hmh
- 34 [
- 35 Timm: ³ [Okay nuh how abut Bakerhh
- 36
- 37 Ehrl: Uh hhold on just a minnuht.
- 38
- 39 (2.5) ((various muffled noises))
- 40
- 41 Ehrl: Yes sh-sure.
- 42
- 43 Timm: hm[hhh
- 44 [
- 45 Ehrl: [By all meanss.=

45

³ Senator Howard H. Baker, Jr. (R-Tennessee) Vice-Chairman and “the ranking Republican on the Senate Watergate committee” (*The Watergate Hearings* (NY Times edition) Profiles of Key Figures p.817). According to the Washington Post edition of *The Presidential Transcripts*, in ‘Names That Figure In The Transcripts’ (p.xxvii), “Shortly after the committee was formed in February, 1973, Baker met secretly with President Nixon.” Perhaps it was at this meeting that, according to him, “he was assured by the Republican leadership before he accepted his position on the Watergate panel that he would not be expected to take a partisan line or take orders from the White House.” (*The Watergate Hearings* op.cit., p. 817).

1 Timm: =hh Both of ' m.[hh
 2 [
 3 Ehrl: [Yah.hm[hh
 4 [
 5 Timm: [Okay?
 6
 7 Ehrl: :pt O:l↑ri[:ght,
 8 [
 9 Timm: [Shell I letchu know?
 10
 11 Ehrl: Uh:: no:?wihh=
 12
 13 Timm: =Jus' do i[t.
 14 [
 15 Ehrl: [J's go ahead 'n do i[t
 16 [
 17 [
 18 (([whhkhhm))
 19 [
 20 Timm: [nQk^h ay=
 21
 22 Ehrl: =↓Thanks.
 23
 24 ((whk-kuh whk-kuh-kuh [khm))
 25 [
 26 [((dikkuh kuh kllrk))
 27
 28 ((woo↑eet))
 29
 30 (5.9) ((dead tape))
 31
 32 Voice: This kinclu:des the abuse? of gover'mint p^hower segmint (·) fer conversation
 33
 34 number ·h thirdy eight (·) dash (·) eigh↓dy eight.↓