



## “I Feel Very, Very Strongly About This”

**Date:** 1968-11-03

**Conversation:** WH6811-02-13710

**Participant:** Lyndon B. Johnson

**Participant:** Richard M. Nixon

**Start Time:** 13:54

**Duration:** 01:14

**Place:** LBJ Ranch

SCENE SETTER: Republican presidential nominee Richard M. “Dick” Nixon learned that President Johnson had received evidence of the Nixon campaign’s interference in negotiations for peace talks to end the Vietnam War. Prompted by this development, Nixon called Johnson to strongly deny any involvement, but the President reiterated the accuracy of the reports.

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**President Johnson:** Hello?

**Richard M. “Dick” Nixon:** Mr. President?

**President Johnson:** Yes.

**Nixon:** This is Dick Nixon.

**President Johnson:** Yes, Dick.

**Nixon:** I just wanted you to know that I got a report from Everett [M.] Dirksen [R–Illinois] with regard to your call. And I just went on *Meet the Press*. And I said that—on *Meet the Press*—that I had given you my personal assurance that I would do everything possible to cooperate both before the election and, if elected, after the election. And that if you felt, the Secretary of State felt, that anything would be useful that I could do, that I would do it. That I felt Hanoi—I felt Saigon should come to the conference table. That I would—if you felt it was necessary—go there, or go to Paris. Anything you wanted. I just wanted you to know that I feel very, very strongly about this, and any rumblings around about [*scoffs*] somebody trying to sabotage the Saigon government’s attitude there certainly have no—absolutely no credibility as far as I’m concerned.

**President Johnson:** That’s—I’m very happy to hear that, Dick, because [*Nixon attempts to interject*] that is taking place.

*End of excerpt.*

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CITATION: “Lyndon B. Johnson and Richard M. Nixon on 3 November 1968,” Conversation WH6811-02-13710, *Presidential Recordings Digital Edition* [Johnson Telephone Tapes: 1968, ed. Kent B. Germany, Nicole Hemmer, and Ken Hughes] (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2014–). URL: <http://prde.upress.virginia.edu/conversations/4006126>

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Full information about this conversation: [“I Feel Very, Very Strongly About This”](#)