

TELCON

General Scowcroft - Secretary Kissinger

December 3, 1973

5:20 p.m.

S: \_\_\_\_\_ strong veto signal in the letter to Albert.

K: This morning.

S: What concerns me is that it reduces Jackson's flexibility and the \_\_\_\_\_ will gripe about....

K: Oh, come on, come on. If you want to railroad the bill through, go ahead and do it. The President said this morning, a strong veto signal Albert told me the only difference between now and January is that Ullman wants his name on it and he won't be chairman of the committee then and he wants his name on it.

S: Well, that's the first I have heard about Albert.

K: That's what he told me, I can't judge that, but you ask Shultz if the agreement this morning wasn't that there be a strong veto signal.

S: Nobody is putting pressure on us, I just wanted to see if we might be reducing our chances.

K: The only way you can get Jackson to compromise is if he thinks there will be a veto, it may make a little harder to pass the bill, even that \_\_\_\_\_.

S: Hal would like to say something.

K: God dammit, we used to run these things through without running it like a Polish parliament. How about John Lehman, he seems to be getting into the act all the time now, too.

Sonnenfeldt. There are some other considerations. The AFL wants the bill killed. If you tell them you are going to veto an unacceptable bill, they will get behind it. And the Russians, even if you mention their name in an invidious manner, we are committed to the Russians, we are committed to use the veto.

K: We haven't committed ourselves to the Russians. We are committed to the Congress.

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S: But things have been said to the Russians.

K: They've been said already. Listen you will just have to hold the letter overnight. I have meetings I must attend and I have to get to the airport.

S: OK.