

6

Henry Kissinger - Dec. 19, 1972, phone talk with
Marder

6

In response to my call about Xuan & Thuy's charge that Henry tried to make 126 changes in the Vietnam draft, Henry called back--probably just to blow his top. He came on the phone roaring about the ~~horrible~~ "outrageous" Washpost and when I sorted out his target it was today's editorial on "The Great Charade" rather than me ("You've been 80% rational.") Said he was furious not about criticism but that editorial had impugned his motives and his "good will."

Then followed some clipped responses to my questions x about Thuy's charges, and Kissinger, who rarely swears in any conversation I have had with him, said among other things, "It is a pack of lies. ~~See~~ It's a blatant, bald-faced lie...I don't ~~know~~ know what those sons of bitches are counting...That's total, unadulterated crap," etc.

Insisted nothing remotely ~~like~~ like 126 changes were ever asked..."There were only eight issues all together... There were only four issues in the last week...The major issue that was discussed occurred in one place... Can any one really believe that having negotiated in Berlin, in Shanghai, in Moscow, I ~~would~~ would present 126 issues to be settled in one day?..."

Then, after more of the same, he said, "Of course this is all off the record," and "You know I'm not supposed to talk to you." I said, no, I didn't know that; when did that happen, and why? He said "You know it," then said, "all right, but ~~if~~ I'm talking to you."

The main point of all this was his mood, as though he were in a state of seige, pressed x from all sides. He ended up saying bitterly, "Tell Phil ~~San~~ Geyelin that I deeply appreciated his editorial; it made me feel that all the time I spent with him was worthwhile," and he cut off the conversation.

murrey



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