

hour mtg with Ford + Kissinger
in White House.

Pres Ford

4/15/75

unity needed.

no finger ~~ptg~~ pointing

Crisis in Viet Nam

cannot return to isolationism.

Kissinger

tragic problem

Ford action not popular. Chamberlain was
popular after Munich - out in 18 mos.

we will pay a price - resolution to be

tested in other parts of the world

Some nations will draw away from US as
we have strong foreign policy ^{independable.}

we shd project confidence, even tho
S.V. may well collapse.

- Communists maintained their
level of aid to N.V. (which
was permissible.
- ours dropped about 75%
no spare parts etc, just ammo.
- Congress by legislation
removed all threat of U.S.
intervention (even tho we
wldnt ~~see~~ intervene, uncertainty
important in N.V. strategy)

U H mty 4/15/75

in Dec intelligence indicated no major com action this year. Feb it all changed.

Thieu moved to stronger positions because of lack of US help, but withdrawals?

- poorly conceived
- poorly executed
- new positions not prepared.
- became a rout.

losing, one by one, the carrots with which to attract Soviet Union to detente.
~~(losing power to influence things more)~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

Mtg with President Ford
of Cabinet mtg

11/4/75

Vote on Consumer Bill - House vote
tomorrow

Focal pt within agencies for
consumer activities

Announcements.

Public representation on public
advisory groups

Better coordination w state +
local govt

Field office involvement stressed.

Consumer complaints

- (a) Environment, ag, etc
- (b) Human resources
- (c) Business & finance

11/4/75

THE WHITE HOUSE - cont'd)

Plans due Fri for publication
in Federal Register mid
November

Openness of govt in pre
decision process. Lynn

I urged that the consumer plans
for the Federal Register and agency
responses to questions our GSA
information centers receive be
stripped of govt Gobbledygook.
Pres Ford laughed that I that
we could turn govt bureaucracy
around in a few days.
I responded that it might be a
naive hope, but I that the bureaucracy
responded to effective leadership better
than people realized.

THE WHITE HOUSE

After the Cabinet mtg
we were asked by newsmen
about Presidential discussions
of ~~the~~ yesterdays announcements
on Rockefeller, Rumfeld,
Schlesinger, Richardson, Colby
& Hissinger.

We all explained these
moves were not discussed