

kcbs, SF

10 July 1975

transcribed from tape

[news, local announcer] A Columbia, S.C. newspaper reporting on a telephone conversation with a Columbia attorney, Harry Dent, and former President Nixon. Dent is a former Nixon aide. They talked for about an hour. "I told him that if his administration had continued, the South Vietnamese government would not have collapsed," said Dent. "He emphatically agreed with that, but he was not being critical of President Ford's handling of the situation." Dent told the newspaper that Nixon telephoned him, unexpectedly. "He didn't sound like the old Nixon," said Dent. "He didn't sound like a whipped dog, not crying or mumbling, he sounded very good." KCBS news time. 9:37 p.m.]

(complete)

KCBS, SF

10 July 1975

transcribed from tape

[A South Carolina newspaper] [news, local announcer] recently spoke with aide Harry Dent about national and international affairs. The newspaper, The State, quoted Mr. Dent, describing a recent telephone conversation with Nixon from San Clemente. Dent said that Nixon called him recently to -- in Dent's words -- "pick my brain" about what's happening in politics, and then United Press International talked further to Dent in their recording. Dent said that he told Nixon ~~that~~ his administration could have prevented the fall of South Vietnam. Dent said the former President quote "emphatically agreed with that, but he was not being critical of President Ford's handling of the situation."

Dent [voice]: I made the statement to him that many people had said to me that they felt that if he had been permitted to continue as President, unfettered by the Watergate mess and so forth, that South Vietnam would not have been conquered by the Communists. And with that, of course, he agreed. And he agreed because he said he understood the importance of not losing that battle on the world scene, not only for the people of Vietnam, but also for people of the United States of America.

Announcer: Dent also said Nixon didn't indicate that he would do anything before the 1976 elections, although he said Nixon has retained his strong interest in politics. Said Dent quote "He has no interest in getting out and campaigning and advising anyone." [complete]