

SRT_0-969-3_John Is Going to Be All Right

Date: 1963-11-22

Participant: Lyndon B. Johnson

Participant: Lady Bird Johnson

Participant: Idanell B. "Nellie" Connally

Participant: Air Force One

Participant: White House

Participant: Unidentified Speaker

Start Time: 15:28

Place: Air Force One

SCROLLER TITLE: "John Is Going to Be All Right"

SCENE SETTER: Shortly after expressing their condolences to Rose F. Kennedy, mother of the late president John F. "Jack" Kennedy, President and Lady Bird Johnson spoke to Idanell B. "Nellie" Connally, wife of Texas governor John B. Connally. The only other casualty in Dealey Plaza that day, John Connally was one of President Johnson's closest political associates, having managed Johnson's 1960 campaign for the presidency.

White House: Ah—

AF-1: OK, [CROWN], *Air Force One*. VOLUNTEER would like a patch to the Governor Colony—correction, Governor [John B.] Connally of Texas, Mrs. [Idanell B. "Nellie"] Connally. That's the governor's wife. Go ahead.

White House: VOLUNTEER would like a patch with Mrs. Connally, Governor Connally's wife. Do you—is that a Roger?

AF-1: [That] is a Roger.

White House: Roger, Roger. Stand by one.

AF-1: Still standing by for the Connally call.

White House: Roger, Roger. We have Dallas on the line, and they are trying to contact her now. Stand by, please.

AF-1: [Thank you], Roger. Standing by.

White House: [*Tape skips.*] [*Unclear*] from CROWN, come in.

Unidentified Speaker: AF-1, LIBERTY. Loud and Clear, 4-7. Do you have a—the receiver, right, sir?

AF-1: Roger, Roger. That's right. Stand by one. CROWN to *Air Force One*.

White House: *Air Force One* from CROWN. The Connally residence in Dallas is on the line, is on the line, and Mrs. Connally is available to speak with Mr. [Lyndon B.] Johnson if he can get to the phone patch. Go ahead.

AF-1: Roger. He wants specifically to speak with her. Go ahead.

White House: Roger. Stand by just a moment. [*Brief pause.*] AF-1, AF-1, from CROWN. Would you put VOLUNTEER on, please? Mrs. Connally is on the line standing by for his call.

AF-1: Stand by one.

Lady Bird Johnson: Nellie? Can you hear me?

Idanell B. “Nellie” Connally: Yes, Bird.

Lady Bird Johnson: [*Tape skips.*] Sure is some reassuring news, over the TV. We are up in the plane. But they—the surgeon, speaking about John, sounded so reassuring. How about it?

Connally: The report he gave was true. That was the surgeon that had just done the operating on him. And John is going to be all right—we are almost *certain*, unless [something] unforeseen happens.

Lady Bird Johnson: Just a minute, Nellie. I can’t hear you too well [*unclear*].

White House: Mrs. Johnson—

President Johnson: Nellie, do you hear me?

Connally: Yes.

President Johnson: [*Unclear*] you, darling, and I—I know that—that everything’s going to be all right. Isn’t it?

Connally: Yes, [it’s] going to be all right.

President Johnson: God bless you, darling.

Connally: The same to you.

President Johnson: Give a hug and a kiss for me.

Connally: Good luck!

President Johnson: Good-bye.

Connally: Bye.

End of excerpt.

CITATION: "The White House, AF-1 (Lady Bird Johnson, President Johnson), and Parkland Hospital (Idanell B. ‘Nellie’ Connally) on 22 November 1963," Sound Recording Tape O-969-1, *Presidential Recordings Digital Edition [The Kennedy Assassination and the Transfer of Power]*, vol. 1, ed. Max Holland] (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2014–). URL: <http://prde.upress.virginia.edu/conversations/9010056>