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[Conversation between the President and Alexander M. Haig, Jr., Deputy National Security Advisor]

[Secretary]: Go ahead, Mr. President

Nixon: Yeah.

Haig: Yes, sir.

Nixon: Al, one point that I may not have made clear. I do not want this second exercise I pointed out to be limited to new countries. It's to include *all* countries, see – that we give aid to, see?

Haig: Yes sir, I caught that.

Nixon: Like Yugoslavia, Romania, Ethiopia, for example – there's one.

Haig: Exactly.

Nixon: Ethiopia. Liberia – did you call that a contested election?

Haig: [Chuckle] No sir.

Nixon: Hell, they haven't had one there since the slaves went over.

Haig: No, I told them to expand it to all countries –

Nixon: They just don't understand what I meant. The thing I want them to understand – Aiken – the same – you can ... Vietnam can be described as a democratic process, but the question is, is the present leader there as a result of a contested election, a legitimately contested election? Not a ten to one affair, but a, not a – you can't even describe Mexico as that.

Haig: No, that's correct sir.

Nixon: Mexico is a one party government. You can't describe Colombia as a contested election.

Haig: That's right.

Nixon: Because they – you see my point? Give those as examples. Mexico is not contested ... I'm not going to put the countries out, but I'm gonna get the number out, see? Mexico is not contested, Colombia's not contested.

Haig: Exactly.

Nixon: Each party shifts it back and forth, see?

Haig: Fine sir.

Nixon: Okay.

Haig: Yes sir.

Nixon: Bye

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