October 20, 1971 9:28 am – 12:20 pm

Conversation No. 597-3 Cassette No. 1293 Oval Office

[President Nixon and H.R. Haldeman talk]

Nixon: The Democrats are going to make a Latin America issue, let me tell you . . .

Haldeman: Yeah.

Nixon: . . . when people don't give one shit.

Haldeman: Right, right.

Nixon: Don't you agree?

Haldeman: Absolutely...

Nixon: We've been around this track a number of times. I had the Latin American heads of state here. Nobody gives one tinker's damn about Colombia, Venezuela, et cetera. We try! You know, they don't even care about Mexico. Not much.

Haldeman: Enough Mexicans do, though.

Nixon: Pretty much. But you know, I mean we've got these Mexican [unintelligible]. We've got – it's just too bad!

Haldeman: That's right. If you do anything in Latin American it would be a lot better just from that viewpoint I think, to go down to South America than it would be to go to, just to Mexico.

Nixon: I agree, oh we won't go to Mexico.

Haldeman: Because we've been to Mexico and we've so overdone the Mexican President, that . . .

Nixon: We'll go down to Latin America. That's not bad.

[Conversation unrelated to Mexico continues]