CONFIDE

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

THE PRESIDENT

Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security

Affairs

Klaus Schuetz, Governing Mayor of

Berlin,

Ambassador Berndt von Staden, FRG Ambassador to the United States

DATE AND TIME:

Friday, November 21, 1975

10:10 - 10:20 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

[The press in was admitted briefly. There was small talk about the Economic Summit at Rambouillet, the SPD Party Congress, etc. The press left.]

The President: We feel very strongly about the importance of Berlin. I want you to know we will live up to every commitment and we will continue to give you support. Your being here is an indication of that support.

Schuetz: One of the nice things is to be able to come here without problems to discuss. We have economic problems, but they are the problems of the Federal Republic not Berlin. We have a more balanced economy in Berlin than the Federal Republic as a whole.

For our security we know we can count on the big Three and especially the United States. Detente is in part positive for us and in part negative, but it does tend to make life somewhat easier for us.

Have you ever been to Berlin, Mr. President?

The President: I was just thinking how many times. The first time was in '57 or '58. I went there with General Westmoreland on a European trip. General _____ was the Commandant. I knew him well from his being the Army Budget Director.

[He described the other part of his trip.]

Schuetz: You know the American President is always welcome in Berlin.

The President: I hope to make it sometime. I think it would have meaning.

Schuetz: It would have meaning. We are the only area in the world that is pleased to be occupied. We have an especially close feeling with American forces and the United States of America.

I was pleased that we could have the [Berlin Opera Company] symphony here for the Bicentennial as a gesture of this closeness between us.

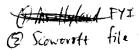
The President: The symphony is a big success.

<u>Schuetz:</u> Los Angeles is our sister city and I went there. Mayor Bradley and I don't travel like Mayor Yorty did, but we have a good relationship.

The President: I am glad New York is not your sister city!

Schuetz: We get 50% of our budget from the federal budget.

The President: New York gets 25% but you don't hear about it. Their problem is mis-management.



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NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES State Ver. 25/11/04

BY LAN , NARA. DATE 1/4/04

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