

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.8

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MR 04-26 #17. dt-llr 2/3/04

By dal NARA Date 3/4/04

MEMORANUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald R. Ford
 Secretary General Luns of NATO
 Paul S. I. P. Van Campen, Heads of Luns'
 Private Office
 Caterina A.B. Borgman Brouwer, Personal
 Assistant to Luns
 Ambassador David K.E. Bruce, U.S. Permanent
 Representative to NATO
 Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
 Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense
 Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the
 President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Monday, February 9, 1976
 3:00 - 3:40 p.m.



PLACE: The Oval Office

Luns: Iceland tells me they are very happy you are interested without playing a forward role.

The President: It seems to ebb and flow.

Luns: It has been entirely taken up in domestic politics in Iceland. They will break diplomatic relations rather than break up the governing coalition.

The President: What can Wilson do?

Luns: He can say he will take the warships out for the time. He can also reduce the catch. He has done that, but it is not enough. They have not broken yet, which is a good sign. It would be a tragedy. Iceland is an unsinkable aircraft carrier.

The President: Is the UK the only other country that fishes there?

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CLASSIFIED BY Brent Scowcroft
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 SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5(b) (3)
 AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to Det.

Luns: No, the Germans do also, but they have accepted the Iceland conditions, as have the Belgians. The Britains say fish and chips is the poor man's diet and areas like Hull are heavily dependent on it.

The President: We have some other problems with our friends. I was very disappointed with Greece and Turkey. What is happening?

Luns: I think they will agree to start the talks on the 17th, but I doubt the Turks will be prepared to make concessions. Speaking frankly, should the Turks withdraw from NATO we would have to consider withdrawing Greece also. It wouldn't be defensible to have only Greece.

The Spanish Foreign Minister is coming to visit me and I will receive him warmly, with Haig. This is within my personal prerogatives.

The President: Is there any movement?

Luns: Some. The Dutch have agreed to receive the Spanish Foreign Minister.

The reception of the Treaty was good. There was no dissenting voice. I plan to invite the Spanish as observers to the environmental meetings, major maneuvers, etcetera. But in the end it depends on the Spanish themselves. The Basques are a problem and would be no matter what the regime.

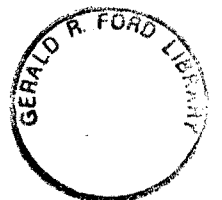
May I be candid. There is great worry in Europe now about the United States. There is an admiration for your leadership and that of the Secretary of State who isn't criticized at all like he is here. We are afraid it is becoming a government by assembly. We are afraid your people are losing the taste for leadership.

The President: It is a bad period. Reagan has not attacked our leadership but he doesn't know what he is talking about.

What is your appraisal of Portugal?

Luns: It is veering in the right direction. The military has purged itself but the economy is in a dreadful shape. They have taken in 300,000 people from the colonies and that is tough for a country that size. Foreign policy is by essence a compromise. Even a superpower must compromise. Antunes is farther left than Soares.

The President: Will the EC help?



Luns: Yes. They are providing additional help.

The President: We were afraid the Congress would turn us down on Angola, but I thought we had to make them stand up to be counted. They are looking for a way to get off the hook. I told Godfrey Sperling of the Christian Science Monitor this morning that Congress was losing its guts.

What about Italy?

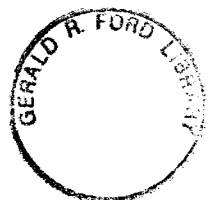
Luns: It baffles everybody. First the old timers have no sense of responsibility. They are smart and able men but without any sense of patriotism. The Italian economy was recuperating slowly, but this crisis has resulted in a worsening and flight of capital.

[Secretary Kissinger arrives.]

Luns: In France, if there is really a split with Moscow, the Communist party is no longer Communists. But we don't know.

Kissinger: I find it difficult to believe that the French Communists have become Social Democrats. I could think it a little easier if it was the Italians, but even that is not our problem. At best, they would be like Tito whose foreign policy is a disaster for us around the world.

The President: We have an honor now to confer on David. It is an honor for me to present it and the country is far better off for having had your service.



Helsinki - Surge

✓ Press / SYG June of NATO
2/9/76 3⁰⁰ pm - 3⁴⁰ pm

L Iceland tells me they are very happy you
are interested w/o playing a forward role

P It seems to echo flow

L It has been entirely taken up in domestic
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rather than break up a growing coalition

P What can Wilson do.

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time. He can also reduce catches. He has
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They have not broken yet which is good sign.
It would be a tragedy. Iceland is an unsinkable
captive carrier.

P Is UK only fisher threat

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Brits say fish & chips is a poor man's diet
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AUTHORITY per ml 24-16, #17

BY wh NLF, DATE 4/16/04



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(K continues)

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have become Soc. Demos. I could think it
a little easier for Italians, but even that
is not our probe. At best they would be
like Tito ~~but~~ whose FP is a disaster for
a second world

P We have our hands on the ropes on David.
It is our hands for me to present it and
the country is far better off for being had
you recall