THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford

Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense

General George Brown, Chairman of the JCS George Bush. Director of Central Intelligence Brent Scowcroft. Assistant to the President

for National Security Affairs

DATE & TIME:

PLACE:

Monday - February 16, 1976

3:45 p.m.

The Oval Office

MR 01-101, # 27: OSDEW 3/2/04

President: This morning I met with Fred Ikle. Henry and Brent were there. Fred had a couple of minor points.

I decided on the deferral option. This paper was worked out in a meeting with Don, Henry and Brent last night. This will be a two-part treaty, and we will have an interim agreement with a terminal date of January 1979. [He reads the entire note aloud. Attached.]

Rumsfeld: Has this been given to Dobrynin?

President: Yes, it was given to him at 11:15, with a personal two and a half page note from me to Brezhnev.

Brown: There is one new thing here -- a review of the cruise missile range threshholds. What is that?

Rumsfeld: That was to protect against the possibility that we may move into special verifiability problems.

President: It was a DOD proposal.

Rumsfeld: I think that is the reason.

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Scowcroft: That's right.

Brown: The Chiefs will be with you on this, Mr. President. We worked up this same basic package three days ago. The JCS are on record.



For Cleck Criss wish Cutry this you. Y/ Gun Brown / Bush / Rumsfeld / P This morning I want w/ Full Ikle. Hen & Bunt was thorn. Full land as comply min porto. I leveled on a Lyural of this, This popular authoritant an inty wif Dernikt But but my W. The will be 2 fonta tunty o an intrin agreement w/a (Reads the smite about) R Hos this terrigion to Doly. P yes, the at 1115, w/a person 2/upay wite from me to Buz. Br Thru is are non thing her - a review of der range thresholds. What is that? R That was to putit against a purchaly thist we my come with special surpealship P It masa DOD proport & John that is a un S That eight Be The Chips will be wif you can this her P. We worked my this some begin fackorge I drys ago. The TCS are on board. DECLASSIFIED

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