

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford  
 Prince Gyanendra of Nepal  
 Amb. Shirley Temple Black, Chief of Protocol  
 Amb. Khatri, Nepalese Ambassador  
 Alfred L. Atherton, Jr., Assistant Secretary of  
 State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs  
 Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for  
 National Security Affairs

DATE & TIME: Friday, December 10, 1976  
 10:35 - 10:55 a. m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

President: I am very pleased to see you and welcome you to the United States. Please give His Majesty my warm regards. We do hope that relations between our countries will prosper. I am sure the new administration will continue the same policies toward further strengthening of the ties between our two countries.

Gyanendra: I want to express gratitude on behalf of His Majesty and his government.

President: Isn't Mrs. Maytag there?

Gyanendra: Yes. She is doing a fine job.

President: She is a good political friend. She had no experience but she is a capable person. She likes the outdoors.

Gyanendra: We have plenty of that.

President: I am impressed with your interest in wildlife.



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 SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
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 E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5  
 NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Dep. ext 3/13/04  
 BY llk NARA DATE 7/20/04

Gyanendra: We had a good conference. About 600 delegates. But it is interesting the amount of politicizing going on in the conference.

President: Is that right?

We have had a big upsurge in this country in concern for endangered species. There is much concern with preserving the heritage of the past.

What are your endangered species?

Gyanendra: Among the cats, the tiger. With pesticides, etc. Also the one-horned rhino. We are doing well with the rhino, but the tiger will take more time. The Smithsonian is doing good work for saving the tigers.

President: One of my sons has taken a deep interest in the grizzly.  
[Describes his activities]

Gyanendra: This is what they are doing on the tiger. He really travels miles in one night's foraging.

President: Are they hunted?

Gyanendra: It has been banned totally for seven or eight years. That is progress. We are pleased His Majesty is concerned about wildlife -- and the preservation of all aspects of our national heritage, like old palaces and monuments that are 2,000 years old.

President: I hope our economic assistance and other aid has been helpful. I am sure the Congress and the new administration will continue to be as helpful as possible.

Gyanendra: Thank you very much. We have no doubt it will continue.

President: Is the Peace Corps there?

Gyanendra: Yes, there is. Much of the help is in agricultural technical help.

President: What is your chief product?



Gyanendra: Rice. Also much vegetables now. Also we are now doing well in family planning.

President: What is the population?

Gyanendra: Just over 12 million.

In our mountainous areas, we border China. We are now getting an understanding on reopening the trade routes, so people maybe will start to move back into those areas.

President: Please give His Majesty my best. I enjoyed chatting with you.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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CONFIDENTIAL-(GDS)

MEETING WITH HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, PRINCE GYANENDRA,  
OF NEPAL  
["Your Royal Highness"]

Friday, December 10, 1976  
10:30 a.m.  
10 minutes - no translation

FROM: Brent Scowcroft

*WAF for*

I. PURPOSE

To reinforce our friendly bilateral relations with the small Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

A. Background: The visit of His Royal Highness Prince Gyanendra (gy-nen-dra) represents the highest-ranking visit of a Nepalese in some years. His brother, King Birendra, has not made a State visit to Washington since becoming King in 1972 though their father did visit in 1967. Thus, this visit represents an opportune occasion to reaffirm US interest in maintaining friendly ties with Nepal--a message which the Prince will transmit to the King.

The US has pursued a policy of friendship with Nepal--buttressed by economic aid--as a reflection of our interest in its stability and independence and in line with the overall policy towards South Asia. Since 1951, US aid has totalled \$200 million (\$11 million in FY 77); though a modest program by our standards, the Nepalese attach great importance to this assistance as a reflection of our support for its independence and national development. There are no bilateral problems with Nepal and we have welcomed its moderate stance in the non-aligned group.

Subject to GDS of E.O. 11652  
Automatically Declassified on  
December 31, 1982.

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E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5  
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His Royal Highness is accompanied on the private tour of the US by his wife, Her Royal Highness, Princess Komal (although she is not expected to attend this meeting). They have been to Williamsburg, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco. In San Francisco, the Prince was honored at the World Wildlife Congress for his work in the establishment of national parks in Nepal.

As a younger brother of King Birendra, the Prince is second to the Crown Prince (the very young son of the King) and would become regent should anything happen to Birendra. He is a close adviser to and sometime representative of the King and regarded as the second most influential figure in Nepal. He made an official visit to the PRC last year. [Biography at Tab A.]

In this brief courtesy call, the Prince will be interested in a strong reaffirmation of US friendship for Nepal as a matter of our mutual interest .

- B. Participants: His Royal Highness (escorted by Ambassador Black) and Nepalese Ambassador Khatri (cat-ry). Assistant Secretary of State Atherton (Middle East/South Asian Affairs) and Brent Scowcroft.
- C. Press Arrangements: White House photo session. Meeting to be announced.

III. TALKING POINTS

--It is a great pleasure to welcome Your Royal Highness at the White House in the spirit of the warm relations our two nations enjoy. I hope that you will convey my very best greetings to His Majesty, King Birendra (bur-ren-dra). And I hope that you and Her Royal Highness are enjoying your travels in our country.

--Congratulations on the special honor you received at the World Wildlife Congress for your work in setting up national parks in Nepal. I can certainly appreciate your interest in this worthwhile work for the benefit of your people.

--Please tell His Majesty that the United States values its good relations with Nepal and will continue its support for your country's independent development.

--We appreciate the constructive approach which Nepal has taken on international issues of interest to the US. We welcome a continuing dialogue with your Government on matters of common concern.

--[You may wish to convey your regards through the Prince to Ambassador Marquita Maytag.]

P/Prince Gyanendra ✓  
10 Dec 76

P Very pleased to see you & welcome you to U.S. Please give H/M any warm regards. We do have relations but our countries and people have a common admin and continue the same policies toward further strengthening of the ties bet am 2 countries.

G Don't express gratitude on behalf of H/M & his part.

P Don't know why they there?

G Yes, she doing a very fine job.

P She a good potential friend. She had an experience that she a expert person. She likes outdoors.

G We have plenty of that

P I'm impressed w/ your interest in wildlife.

G We had a good conf. About 600 delegates. But it interesting a sort of politicking going on in the conf.

P Is that right?

We have had a big response in this country in concern for endangered species. Much concern w/ preserving a heritage for past.

What are your endangered species

G Amur leopard, a Tiger. w/ rhinoceros, etc. also a one horned rhino. We doing

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will use a shield, but tigers will take more time. The Smithsonian is doing good work for man & tigers.

P One of my sons has taken a leaf without in a jungle  
(Describes his activities)

G This is what they do in a tiger - He really travels miles in one night foraging.

P Are they hunted?

G It has been banned totally for 2-3 yrs. That is prog. we pleased. It is concerned about wildlife - and preservation of all aspects from most heritage, like old palaces, etc 2000 yrs old.

P There are some other aid for some helpful. I hope they + our actions will continue to be helpful as possible.

G Thank you very much. We have no doubt it will continue.

P Is there a rice crop?

G Yes, there is. Much of help is in again, to help.

P What kind of product?

G Rice. Also much vegetables now.

Also some doing well in family planning.

P What is population?

G Just over 12 mil.



G In our monitoring areas, and border  
China, we are now getting an understanding  
on shipping & trade routes, so people will  
~~no~~ maybe will start to move back into  
those areas.

P Please give HM my best. Enjoyed  
everything of you