MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald Ford Don Kendall Minister Lein and Food Ministers, USSR It. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Friday, March 14, 1975 12:00 Noon

PLACE:

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DECLASSIFIED

The Cabinet Room The White House



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[There were greetings and small talk. President Ford signed a picture.]

Lein: Mr. President, I have the honor to send you best regards personally to you, your wife, your family and staff, from General Secretary Brezhnev, Chairman Podgorny, and Chairman Kosygin. Truly, we thank you for the opportunity to visit your country and to visit with you today. The Soviet people and now we are sure, in this country, we are having meetings with workers and ordinary people. And we are pleased at [translation garbled] your meeting with Brezhnev at Vladivostok. We are sure now that all the efforts made by the American President and administration and the Soviet Government are in accordance with the wishes of the people of the U.S. and the Soviet Union. We are sure, on the basis of the meetings that you and General Secretary Brezhnev have had and the meetings before, that relations will improve in the future.

We have had an opportunity to see food production here just as your people have seen it in ours. The interests of both our countries are the same -our populations are about the same, so we have the same views. We are sure this development on a reciprocal basis will develop further. We have good relations with Mr. Kendall and we are sure they will develop further on a benefical basis to both. Business relations between us will develop with the help of our governments, and we hope most-favored-nation will develop. We are very pleased that you personally are doing much to develop our relationship, especially on trade. We must develop this in not only our trade but in culture and all other areas. We know the terrible things of war. The attention you and Mr. Brezhnev have paid to deterring this between our two countries is in favor of both our peoples and the people of the world.

We can make new investments of capital, bringing benefits to both our peoples.

For example, two years ago, Mr. Kendall took us to Disneyland. We now just came from Disney World. We know we have to save money from submarines because the lines are so long.

<u>Kendall</u>: They have been to Coors, Sara Lee, Sun Maid, Safeway, Pepsi, Grand Canyon, Tropicana, a cigarette plant, and a bourbon distillery.

<u>The President:</u> Mr. Minister, members of the delegation. I am pleased to welcome you to the White House and to meet with you in the Cabinet Room. I hope your trip as described was pleasant and beneficial.

I hope you will give my best wishes to General Secretary Brezhnev and our other friends. In Vladivostok, not only did we reach mutually beneficial agreements but the hospitality was very heart-warming to me. My first meeting with General Secretary Brezhnev developed a warm and close relationship, but more important, it extended and made the good relations between us even better. We are looking forward to General Secretary Brezhnev's visit to the United States this summer when we can formalize the Vladivostok agreement. Though the agreement at Vladivostok was very important, the expansion of trade and development of other relations between us is very important. The development of trade is indicated by this tour of yours and your relationship with Don Kendall, and it is important to strengthen and deepen those contacts.

Don Kendall has performed a great service in working for a greater trade relationship between our two countries.

May I say the delicious food and beverages in Vladivostok -- I had too much, I can say that. We do hope there can be changes in the legislation which will result in reestablishment of the trade agreement between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Will you advise the General Secretary that this Administration believes very strongly in the expansion of the detente relationship. I look forward to General Secretary Brezhnev's visit this summer when we can take another big step in broadening and deepening the relations between our countries. <u>Lein:</u> We saw a lot of very good, highly mechanized factories, that were very well designed. I was at some plants two years ago. Now I see a lot of new equipment, especially at Pepsi. In 1973, I saw some of his products only through a microscope; this time I saw them in mass production. Mr. Kendall went with his Board of Directors in the Soviet Union to open the first plant in Novosibirsk. The members of the Board od Directors were pleased to visit the Soviet Union. I met them again here and I think exchanges of such views are very important.

The President: It is so nice to see you again.

[Mr. Lein gives the President a bull made from root. Also a box from food industry, a pipe set, samovar, etc., and a gift of chocolate for Mrs. Ford.]

[Small talk in accepting the gifts.]

<u>Lein:</u> Thank you very much again for meeting with us when you are so busy. Also I want to think Mr. Kendall in your presence, because he helped a lot in showing us the United States and helping good relations.

[Mr. Lein gives him a special coin commemorating the 30th anniversary of the end of World War II.]



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