

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SECRET

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Ambassador James D. Hodgson, U.S. Ambassador  
to Japan  
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant  
to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Saturday, March 29, 1975  
11:00 a.m. (5 minutes)

PLACE: The Oval Office

Ambassador Hodgson: I am coming from one area that is not giving you trouble.

The President: I am glad to see you, in the aftermath of my warm welcome there last fall.

Ambassador Hodgson: That is what I wanted to talk about. It is amazing what your trip did. They have come of age from your trip. The things which were edgy are now relaxed. It is really something.

The President: I get the impression that the political situation has calmed.

Ambassador Hodgson: Yes it has. Miki will want to come here in July, then the Emperor will come in October.

The President: I see he [the Emperor] is going to a lot of oceanographic places.

Ambassador Hodgson: Yes. He has to be strictly non-political. Even when he goes to the UN -- probably there will be a picture of him when no one is there. He is very frail, and we have to consider that.

SECRET



~~TOP SECRET~~ - XGDS (3)  
CLASSIFIED BY: HENRY A. KISSINGER

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 13526, SEC. 1.5  
NSC MEMO, MARINA STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Review 2/11/04  
BY [redacted], MARA, DATE 5/12/04

The President: Who is coming with him?

Ambassador Hodgson: Just the two of them. None of the rest of the family. We will keep the visit non-political and low-key in activity. They watch for you to come to a return dinner.

The President: That's no problem. Where will they stay?

Ambassador Hodgson: The Blair House. Then they will travel for two weeks. We have to stage it so TV will play the right aura back to Japan.

The President: He was very nice to me. He's kind of hard to talk to!

Ambassador Hodgson: You did, though. That is what counted with the Japanese. There was no idle looking into the distance.

When Miki comes, it requires only a lunch or dinner. Protocol requires the head of government to precede the Emperor.

[Ambassador Hodgson told a story about a Japanese Stone Lantern that was given to the embassy. The conversation then ended].



P/Holzman

29 Mar 75

H Coming from, and not giving you trouble

P Glad to see you in aftermath of very warm welcome last fall

H That's what I wanted to talk about. It is amazing what a party did. They have kind of eye open your trip. Trip which was ed by one man relayed it is really something

P I get impression you job set has evolved.

H Yes it has. Mike will want to come here in July, then Europe in Oct.

P I see he going to a lot of oceanographic places.

H Yes. He has to be strictly non political. Even UN - peace picture when no one there

H is very proud & we have to consider that.

P Mike coming w/ him

H Just - 2. Some of the ~~press~~ rest of family keep in mind non-pol & low key in activity. They watch for you to come to return dinner.

P <sup>no problem</sup> where will they stay?

H Blair House. Then they will travel for 2 wks. we had to stage it so TV will play a night across for both of you.

P He was very nice to me - kind of hard to talk to

H You did, tho. That is what counted w/c Japanese. No idle looking into distance

When Mike comes it requires only a lunch or dinner. Protocol requires head of party to precede a E supper.

(Japanese Stone hunting)

