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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Congressman Paul Findley (R-Ill)
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy
Assistant to President for the NSC

DATE: Thursday April 24, 1975

PLACE: The Oval Office

President: I understand; you had a long day.

Findley: We were saying you probably under these circumstances don't care to be back in the House.

President: I know you just got back from Europe. How was it?

Findley: The French still resent our treatment of them. France is the natural leader of Europe. There is nowhere to go. European unity is faltering; Britian can't be it. So it's got to be France.

President: How about Germany?

Findley: Strauss says that because of the past it is not possible. I think you should extend the same cooperation to France that we are doing with Britian. It would end a lot of bickering.

President: We had a good meeting at Martinique. I thought it had solved a good deal of the bickering, and we got some good progress on energy cooperation and other topics. The consumer-producer preparatory conference broke up because of Algerian insistence on bringing in other commodities.

My meeting with Giscard was very helpful. We are working with them more in the military field and are cooperating in other areas. But cooperation has to work both ways. I noticed the French are sending only their Foreign Minister to the NATO Summit meeting. That doesn't help. I will meet with all the other heads of state but can't possibly meet with their Foreign Minister.

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E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5
NSC MEMO, 11/2/80, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Dept. memo 2/8/04
BY lan, NARA, DATE 5/14/04

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Findley: I think this stems from nuclear bitterness. We could have saved them untold millions just by telling them what not to do. We share nothing. They said they would sign the NPT.

President: We are aware of that and we have talked about it. But we need both sides to cooperate.

Findley: Next we need a strategy to invigorate North Atlantic relationships. [He hands the President a paper]. There are things I think we can do. Schlesinger was there a couple of months ago. He thinks he needs more headway.

President: We are working on MBFR. There are some reservations by some of our allies. I don't rule out some real movement.

Findley: The NAC could propose a modernization of NATO. We have smart bombs, etc. We could also move into talking about future deployments. We should talk more about the future with our allies than staking so much on talks with the Soviet Union.

President: We will certainly include your views in consideration of the agenda.

Findley: The Atlantic Union resolution almost passed last year. I think we have the troops this year with more words of encouragement from you.

President: You have pushed this for years. I would want to take a look at it rather than make a commitment. What was good earlier might not be so good today.

Findley: The root problem is France. They bitterly resent the role of the British.

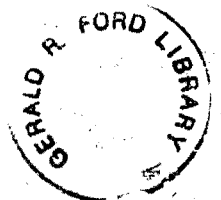
One last point - food. One cheap, imaginative solution is the land grant college.

President: Two weeks ago I met with food experts and this week with John Hannah. There are things going on in this area. Whether this is possibly it, I can't say, but I will ensure that it gets included in our suggestions.

Do you want me to veto the farm bill?

Findley: I sure do.

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P/ Congressman Findley
24 April 75

P Understood you had a long day
F We're really targeting you probably under three circumstances
but ~~we~~ want
to be back in house

P ~~Go~~ I know you just got back from E.M. to deal
F It still stands on treatment of them. It is a matter
of honor of E.M. There is no where to go, E.M. unity
is falling. We can't beat it. So F.

P How about C.M.

F Strongly says because of it just not possible. I
think you should get out some C.M. to F.M. that we
are w/ but. It would need a lot of backing

P We had ~~just~~ unity at meetings - I think it had
some goal of a backing + get some good
prop on energy, etc. The C.M. may have
because of Algerian instances or bringing in
other countries

My unity w/ C.M. was very helpful. We are
working w/ them in new mid field + are working
in other areas. But C.M. has to work both ways.

I criticized F.M. sending F.M. to NATO unity. That
doesn't help. I will meet w/ other heads of state but
can't possibly meet w/ F.M.

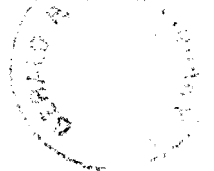
F I think this stems from nuclear bitterness. We can
have solved these untold millions just by telling
them what not to do. We should nothing - they
said they would sign NPT

P We are aware + we have talked about it. But
need both to the C.M.

F Next is the to incorporate NA relationships. (Thanks

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NSC MEMO, 11/18/00, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Div. ex. 3/8/04
BY 100, NARA, DATE 5/14/04



Pa paper). There are things I think we can do. Schlos
was there - couple of months ago. He thinks he needs
leadership. We're working on MBER - that are some inter-
ventions by some of our allies. I don't see out
some real movement.

F ~~We~~ NAAL could propose modernization of HATO.
We have smart books, etc. We could also come into
talking about future budget. We should talk more
about future w/ allies than sticking so much
on talks/SC.

P We will certainly want include your views in
our agenda consideration

F Atlantic Union almost passed last year. I think
we have things this year w/ more world of movement
from you

P You have pushed the papers. I would want to take
a look at it rather than make a comment. What
was good looking might not be so today.

F The next prob is Fr. They better meet a special
role of a Br.

One last point - fuel. One change, imaginative
solution is a local grant college.

P 2 weeks ago I met w/ local experts + this week w/
Hannock. There are things going on in this area
whether this is possible or not I can't say, but
I will ensure it gets included in our
suggestions.

want to see into form bill

F Sure do. ~~B~~

