

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald Ford
Congressman Dan Rostenkowski (D. -Ill.)
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, July 22, 1975
3:00 p. m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House

The President: How was your trip to Poland?

Rostenkowski: Great. I even have taken low-key credit for getting you there. I think it is great your going into that area.

If you are going to do anything, get out and around in the city. The people just love us. I drove to Poznan, with an American Flag on the car. They are interested in eliminating trade barriers. Olszewski, Minister of Trade, said this is the first 30-year period in Polish history without a war. He said that you and President Nixon have many warm friends in Poland. They need our help. We can provide them with things the Soviet Union can't and they use that against the Soviet Union when the Soviet Union wants them to take a stand against the United States.

The President: We traveled in Poland under the IPU in 1959. We had a friend in the Embassy who drove us around for ten days. I was impressed with Gierek. I saw the booming trade figures. I think that is good for us and them, to give them a little independence from the Soviet Union.

Rostenkowski: Geirek told me when his family had to leave they almost came here instead of going to France as he did. Many American Poles are anti-Communist and don't want us to recognize a Communist government. But that does no good.

Gierek pleaded with me to get you to come.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5
NSC MEMO, 11/24/88, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES
BY WJ NARA DATE 5/24/04



~~TOP SECRET~~
CLASSIFIED BY XXXXXXXXXX

The President: We are going to Warsaw Monday, and on Tuesday to Krakow.

Rostenkowski: Krakow is really the beautiful section of the country.

The President: We stayed in the old Delux Hotel. It was ten years after the war. We were welcome then, but I am sure things have changed dramatically.

Rostenkowski: If you had 15 minutes for a film. They rebuilt the old section of Warsaw. Their feeling of identity is unbelievable.

The President: The big building the Soviet Union built was the newest building when I was there. The Poles didn't like it; they made fun of it.

I saw Mayor Daley in Chicago and had a drink with him. I think we have a good working relationship.

Rostenkowski: He is a good guy. Nixon supported him and Daley didn't forget it.

The President: Can you help me on the Turkish thing?

Rostenkowski: I don't think I can get more than two with me.

The President: I wouldn't do anything to hurt the Greeks. This is important not only to the Turks but the Greeks.

Rostenkowski: What I hear is, "We believe the President but can you trust Kissinger?" Everyone thinks he is so dominant, but at that breakfast there was no doubt who was in charge.



- ... - what kind of note
- Everyone goes out for lunch.

P/Cong. Rostkowski
22 July 75

P R Home was your trip to Poland

R Great. I am sure have taken how they credit for getting
open there. I think it is great you going into
that area.

If you are going to do any thing, get out + around
in = city. The people just love us, I have
to Poznan, w/ an arm flag on a car. They
interested in China trade business. Olszewski-
Min Trade said this is, the 30 yr period in
the history w/o a war. He said you + Mr. Williams
are very friendly - they need our help. We can
provide them w/ things SO can't + they use that
against SO ~~in~~ when SO wants them to take
stand against US.

P We traveled in Poland under IPU in 59(5).

We had a friend in embassy who chose no account
for 10 days. I was surprised w/ Gierke. I
know a business trade program. I think that is good
focus + then, give them a little independence from
SO.

R Gierke told me when ~~they~~ ^{his family} had to leave they almost
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US folks are anti-comm + but want us to help
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NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES

BY 6/1 NARA DATE 6/21/04

6/21/04

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