

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~SECRET/NODIS~~

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: Crown Prince Khalid, Deputy Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia
 Prince Fahd, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior
 Umar al-Saqqaf, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs
 Prince Sultan, Minister of Defense & Aviation
 Prince Musaid, Minister of Finance
 Dr. Rashed Pharaon, Royal Adviser
 Amb. Ibrahim Sowayel, Saudi Ambassador to U.S.

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
 Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
 Amb. James Akins, U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia

DATE & TIME: Saturday, June 15, 1974

PLACE: Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Kissinger: His Royal Highness doesn't come to Washington when he visits.

Khalid: I go to Cleveland for medicine.

[There was further lengthy discussion about Khalid's trips to the United States, including the fact that there is snow in Cleveland while it rarely snows in Washington. Prince Fahd and Saqqaf then entered.]

Khalid: Sowayel is very sick and he doesn't think he has anything wrong with him. When my Cleveland doctor looked at him, he said if he didn't follow a special diet he would have to operate and cut him into little pieces.

~~SECRET/NODIS~~

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/00, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES *State Review 3/9/04*BY WJ NARA DATE 8/6/04

Kissinger: He is not following his diet.

I am afraid of Dr. Rashad [Pharaon]. After negotiating with Asad for 30 days. I will never negotiate again with Asad.

Khalid: But Rashad is a Saudi trained by Americans.

But your talks with Asad had good results.

Kissinger: He had a difficult problem which he handled with great skill.

Khalid: He is good, but some of his associates have negative instincts.

Kissinger: Saqqaf was the first Foreign Minister to urge me to get into the negotiations.

Khalid: Thank God you took part in them.

Kissinger: What makes these negotiations tolerable for me is the chance to deal with the Arab leaders.

Khalid: I hope they will be fruitful.

Kissinger: We will persist to the end. Step-by-step.

Khalid: We are very pleased.

We know you are tired of traveling back and forth.

Kissinger: I set a record -- the most trips between Israel and Syria in one month of anyone in history.

Khalid: Even the doctors were surprised that any human being could sustain such work and pressure, especially when constantly flying. But we hear you are always alert -- no matter how tired you are.

Kissinger: I felt this negotiation was very important. If it failed, the area would move toward war again, I felt.

Khalid: If the distances were greater, you would have had more rest.

Kissinger: That is a good point. I would spend the day normally with the Syrians and half the night with the Israelis. Arab hospitality being

what it is, Asad always served us dinner, so I never got away until about 11:00 o'clock at night, and then had to have my meetings in Israel when I arrived back.

Khalid: Syrian food is a little fattening.

Kissinger: Yes, and spicy.

Khalid: Syrians are famous for using spice.

Kissinger: One night Gromyko came to Damascus when I was there. Asad cancelled the dinner he had scheduled with Gromyko so he could see me, then after we finished the meeting I was going to leave and he said, no, let's eat Gromyko's food. Then he spent 2-1/2 hours reciting Arab poetry to me which I didn't understand. Tlas, the Defense Minister, do you know him?

Saqqaf: Not I, but Prince Sultan does. They have the same character.

Kissinger: Like you and Khaddam.

Sultan: Tlas has a leathery face.

Kissinger: I like Tlas, but he apparently writes poetry.

Sultan: He has written a book about Mohammed and his war tactics.

Kissinger: In the negotiations I thought Tlas was a constructive influence.

Khalid: Are you happy with your counterpart?

Kissinger: He is a great personal friend.

Khalid: Khaddam? I meant Sowayel.

Kissinger: No, Saqqaf. I consider him a personal friend.

Khalid: Akins is a friend of ours like Sowayel is of yours.

Kissinger: He is devoted to your country.

Khalid: You should assign the Secret Service to Sowayel to force him to diet.

Kissinger: We will force him to cut from 15 courses to 12.

Khalid: He even asks his host to send food he can't eat to his hotel.

Kissinger: I am learning new things. It doesn't seem to have shamed him.

Sowayel: His Highness' information is outdated. That was only when he was young.

Kissinger: During the embargo the Ambassador spoke in masterful ambiguity. No one knew what he was saying.

Sowayel: It was embarrassing for us.

Kissinger: It was difficult for both of us. When traditional friends get into tension it hurts both.

[Musaid leaves.]

Is another meeting going on?

Khalid: Possibly. Saqqaf, Rashad and the Finance Minister have left.

Kissinger: Probably decisions being taken elsewhere.

Khalid: We noticed that too.

Kissinger: Where does His Royal Highness spend most of his time?

Khalid: In Riyadh. And Taif in the summer.

Kissinger: What is the advantage of Riyadh over Jidda? Why was the capital moved?

Khalid: Riyadh has several distinctions. It has always been the capital. But there are two capitals -- Riyadh is the political capital and Mecca is the religious capital. Riyadh is centrally located, and it is also the largest city. In the past Riyadh was small and Jidda was smaller because of a water shortage. Now car traffic in Riyadh is so bad that taxis are banned on Friday, the holy day. Friday afternoon people usually take drives out to the desert. There are four roads.... The



most heavy traffic is to Hejaz, to the east. One Friday there were 70,000 cars using that road.

Kissinger: I notice the Ambassador has now left.

Khalid: Maybe for a phone call.

We hope the President and you can visit again. We want you to visit the south where the land is fertile and water is abundant. As a matter of fact, we are building a road to the south. It will be finished within two years. It is difficult terrain, and the bridges some places are 20 meters high.

Musaid: Construction of one kilometer costs almost 1-1/2 million rials.

Khalid: We also hope you can visit us in Riyadh in the spring. When it rains in Riyadh, wild flowers grow quickly. It is a beautiful sight -- it looks like a carpet.

Kissinger: Prince Fahd was kind enough to invite me to visit in the spring and perhaps go into the desert.

Khalid: I'll take you even further than Fahd. We go hunting with hawks and I'll show you how to do it. You see, I am still down to earth. I like the desert. I breed livestock. Sultan is also interested in this. This also encourages the Bedouins to breed the animals we need.

Kissinger: I love the desert, too, but I have never hunted with hawks. Do you train them?

Khalid: Yes, I've been doing it for forty years. Also the King used to.

Kissinger: That must be difficult.

Khalid: I also have an excellent stable of horses.

Kissinger: In Jidda or Riyadh?

Khalid: We have a horse club, races.

[The group comes back in.]

Kissinger: I guess Saqqaf's meeting ended.

Saqqaf: With whom?

Kissinger: We figured you called a meeting. When I saw Dr. Rashad leaving I knew it would be very complicated.

Just so we in this room know what is being plotted. So long as the Interior Minister is with us, I felt secure.

Khalid: There are two Royal Highnesses to fear: His Royal Highness the Defense Minister and His Royal Highness the Commander of the National Guard. But so long as we have the Minister of Finance we needn't worry.

Kissinger: I told him he would be the first Minister of Finance who didn't know how to spend his money. Others have trouble finding it.

Khalid: He knows how to spend but knows how to increase revenues. When we cut production we had more than ever before. We noticed yesterday the President asked for fuel for his aircraft, but at the world price.

Sultan: Talking of economics, there were differences between the U. S. and France under Pompidou. Now from Giscard's remarks we think the United States and France are closer in economics.

Kissinger: We think that in the last year, Pompidou had such pain and medicines that it affected his attitude. France cannot be an economic competitor of the United States.

Khalid: France taught the Syrians to be stubborn. And the British instilled the idea for the Arabs to differ with each other. It is the case wherever the British colonize.

Kissinger: We don't consider France an economic competitor. What can it offer? We can produce more and offer military, political and economic cooperation which France can't do.

Sultan: I didn't mean to compare the two. I meant to say the new President is moving closer.

Kissinger: No, I agree with the Defense Minister. I only was saying what had happened. I agree completely with His Royal Highness. The new President is moving much more positively toward the United States.

Sultan: I hope Giscard's policy will be more harmonious with American policy, because difficulty between the United States and France will affect European defense.

Kissinger: I agree. Actually, France makes more of a defense effort than any other European country.

Sultan: I heard the United States will participate in building the Concorde.

Kissinger: That's not so.

Sultan: Some French papers mentioned it.

Kissinger: We may build our own.

Sultan: You were, but you stopped.

Kissinger: It was halted by the Congress.

Akins: Each Concorde will have a deficit of \$5 million a year, and we prefer to leave that to France.

Sultan: We heard the firms were demanding compensation for these losses.

Khalid: I think the jumbo jet is better.

Kissinger: It's more economical.

Khalid: And makes less noise. Boeing is the best aircraft.

Kissinger: It is very good.

Will you come to the UN, Omar?

Saqqaf: I hope so.

Kissinger: You visit me before, too.

Saqqaf: I hope so.

Yesterday we heard a Senator is carrying out a campaign against the new agreement with Egypt.

Kissinger: Several. Jackson....

Sagqaf: Jackson is always in the forefront.

Kissinger: And Percy and Church. I am not nervous about that. Much of the opposition came from the Israeli Embassy. They will behave after we have been there.

Sowayel: It is strange that Percy is opposing it. He usually supports us.

Kissinger: He thinks he will be a Presidential candidate for '76.

Khalid: When are the U.S. elections for President?

Kissinger: In 1976. But after the November elections, they will start preparing.

R/Khalid & Princes

15(?) June 1974

Jidda



R HRH doesn't want to Wash when he wants
 Kh I go to Blankland for machine
 Much discussion about Khalid trips to US
 - Snow in Blankland
 - Barely snow in Wash.

(Fahad/Sayq at enter)

Kh Sawagel is very sick & he doesn't think he
 has anything wrong w/ him. When my Blankland
 doctor looked at him he said if he didn't
 follow spec. but he would have to photo a cut hair
 into little pieces.

R He not following diet
 I afraid of Dr. Rashid(?). After negotiating w/ Asad
 for 30 days I will never negotiate again w/ Asad

Kh But Rashid is a SA trained by.
 But your talks w/ Asad had good results.

R He had a different procedure which he handled w/ great
 skill

Kh He good but some of associates have negative
 attitude towards.

R Daygoff from 1st FM to urge and to get into
 negotiations

Kh To work on your task put in them

R What makes these effort, good is character of
 w/ the Arab leaders

Kh Hope they will be fruitful

R We will persist to the end. Step by step

Kh We are very pleased.

We know you are tired traveling back & forth.

R I get a reward - most trips but I will + Lynn
 in words of anyone in history.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Dev. cw 3/9/04

DATE 3/6/04



Rh Even doctors were surprised my bones being
could sustain such weeks pressure, especially
constantly flying. But we have you always alert -
no matter how tired.

K I felt this was very important. If it failed
career would have to start over again, I felt

Rh If distances were greater, you would have had
more rest

K Good point. I would spend day normally w/ Sjos
& had night w/ I + Arab hospitality wasn't
it is, Arab camp had dinner so never
got away til about 2300, & then had to
have my meeting w/ I.

Rh Sjoors food is a little fattening

R Yes, and spicy

Rh Sjoors come forward for using spic

K One night he stayed in Damascus when I then
Arab camp dinner w/ I so he could see me, then
after we finished only 2 hrs going to home & he
said no, let's eat & feed. Then he spent
2 1/2 hrs visiting Arab party to me which
I didn't understand. Some Thas, def
minister, do you know him

Sjoors with I, Sultan. They have some character

R like you & Khuddeh

Sultan Thas has a leathery face.

R I like Thas, but he apparently makes party

Sultan He has written a book about Uzbekistan & his
war tactics.

R In negotiations I thought Thas a constructive
influence.



Kb Are you happy w/ your counterpart

K Personal friend

Kb K Sagoff? I meant Samragel

K He Sagoff. I consider him a personal friend

Kb Whin is a friend because who Samragel is from

K He is shorted to your country.

Kb You should assign SS to Samragel to pass him to ~~the~~ diet.

K We will force him to eat from 15 months to 12

Kb He even asks his host to send food he can't eat to his hotel.

K I leaving new things. Don't seem to have shared him.

Samragel
Kb HRH wife is outdated. I don't is only when he was young.

K Leaving embargos. Arab spoke in multilateral ambiguitly. We are know what he was saying

Samragel It was embarrassing for us.

K Difficult for both of us. When traditional friends get into tension it hurts both.

(Former min base)

K Is another noty going on

Kb Santhid. Sagoff, Raabed, + Fin bin left

K Decisions may take elsewhere

Kb We noticed that too

K Where HRH spend most time?

Kb In Riyadh. And Taif in summer

K What is advantage of Riyadh over Jidda. Why capital would

Kb Riyadh has several advantages. It has always been capital. But there are 2 capitals - Riyadh & Jidda



* Since rains, Rajal centrally located - also
largest. In past Rajal ^{smaller} & had ^{been} smaller
because of water shortage. Traffic in Rajal is
so bad that taxis are banned on Friday, holy day.
Friday P.M. people usually take drives out to
desert. There are 4 roads. . . . The one
heavy traffic is to Heraz, to East. One out
of Friday there w/ 70,000 cars using that road.
I & I visited Arab has now left.

K2 maybe phone calls.

Sultana/Kh/Ferdin W. hope you & you can visit again.
Went you to visit south where land is fertile &
water is abundant. As matter of fact we building road
to south. Be finished w/ in 2 yrs. It difficult terrain
& bridge some places are 20 m high.

Ferdin/Kh/South Construction of 1 km exists almost 1/2 roads.

K2 We also hope you can visit us in Rajal in spring.
When rains in Rajal wild flowers grow quickly.
Beautiful sight - looks like a carpet.

K Ferdin was kind enough to invite me to visit in
spring & perhaps go into desert.

~~Ferdin~~ I'll take you even further than Ferdin. We
go hunting w/ hawks & I'll show you hawk's den.
You see I still down to earth. I like a desert
& have bred livestock. Sultana also interesting.
This also encourages Bedouins to herd animals
we need.

K I love desert too, but have never hunted w/ hawk.
Deeper than there

K2 Yes, for 40 yrs. Also being used to

K That difficult

Kh I also have excellent stocks of houses.

K In with a Royal.

Kh Also have a horse club, races

(They come back in

K I guess they are very much

Snigger
K W/whom?

K We figured you called a party
when I saw Dr. Rashid. Using I know it
would be very complicated.

Just to me in this room know what is being
plotted. So long as Dr. Urums is up, I felt
secure.

Kh There are 2 ~~the~~ Royal H. w/ leaves. HRH c By him
& HRH c/d of Watt ground. But to long as we have min
Five, are in the way

K Told him he 1st who didn't know how to spend his
money. Others have trouble finding it.

Kh He knows how to spend but knows how to increase
revenues. When we were in the past we had more
than ever before. We noticed yesterday parked
for full for craft, but at low price.

Snigger
Talking of currencies, there were def but US & France
under long term. Now from General remarks
we think US & France close in near.

K We think in last year, Long term had such
pain & in the past it affected his attitude. France
cannot be even competitive of US.

Kh France thought seems to be struggling. And that
British instilled idea for Arab to oppose each other
case where we be cooperate

K ~~all~~ don't imagine for a even competitive. What can it



offer? We can produce more offer mail, pd,
+ some crop which Fa can't do.

Sutton Didn't meet everyone c 2. I want to say a
number morning else

R Yes, I agree w/ Dep. I only was saying what
had happened. I agree completely w/ H.H. I'm Pro
moving much more positively toward U.S.

Sutton Hope Central policy will be more harmonious w/ US
policy, because they bet US + Fa will affect Ecu
expense

R I agree. Actually Fa makes more def effort than any
other Ecu country.

Sutton I heard US will participate in building Porsche

R Not so.

Sutton Some French papers mentioned it

R We may build one on.

Sutton You were, but you stopped

R It was halted by Congress

Opus Each car will have effect of 5 million to 1 year
we prefer to have that to Fa

Sutton We heard firms were demanding compensation
for these losses.

RH I think joints get better

R More movement

RH Less noise. Baking is best aft

R It may get:

Will you come to UK, Owen?

Sutton I hope so

R You visit me before, to

Say. I hope so



Sappat Yesterday we heard a Senator is carrying out campaign
against a new agreement W/E

K Sen. Jackson

S Jackson always in forefront

K And Perry and Unruh, don't worry about that.
Unruh's opposition came from F E and Perry will
behave as they have been there.

Sengel Strange Perry opposing. He usually supports us.

K He thinks he has candidate for '76.

Kh When are US elections for Pers

K In '76. Right after the Nov elections, they will start
preparing.

