

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958 (as amended) SEC 3.3
MR # 09-145, # 23
state rev. 3/10/04; DOE 222, 10/21/09
By dal NARA, Date 12/2/09

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald R. Ford
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

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, January 7, 1975
9:18 - 10:18 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House



Kissinger: Mike [Mansfield] is basically an isolationist, except on China and Sihanouk.

I spoke to Dobrynin, which confirmed what I said yesterday. There is severe disillusionment there with the United States. They won't change their policy but they will change their expectations. They will be more matter-of-fact. The press had been ordered not to criticize us and the economic ministries had been ordered to steer business to us. Dobrynin called home, and he says they most certainly will not accept the MFN and credits under the Trade Act as it is now.

You must give a double assurance -- that the quantity of emigrants will promote the purposes of the Act and that you have been given assurances that liberalization is taking place.

Dobrynin suggests a warm letter on detente and the things which have to be done on the Trade Act. I think you should write a warm letter and express your disappointment with the Act and say that Kissinger will describe the details. There is no reason for them to reply.

CLASSIFIED BY Henry A. Kissinger
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5 (b), (1, 3)
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to det.

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

The Congress is forcing us into renewed risk of confrontation.

In the State of the Union Address, I would add a paragraph on Executive-Legislature partnership, but say that it won't take the form of extreme detailed intervention in the conduct of policy.

I have been thinking of a conciliatory speech, detailing these Congressional restrictions and saying we have to be sensitive to Congress but they also have a responsibility to discharge. For example: Egypt rejecting the nuclear reactor -- so we give up leverage like we did on the Aswan Dam. And Ecuador/Venezuela won't go to the Meeting of Foreign Ministers, because of the ban on preferences for OPEC members.

And Simon keeps voting against these countries.

The President: Let's get him in here for a discussion of this OPEC situation so we are on the same wave length. After the State of the Union.

Kissinger: That would be a good idea. There is no hurry.

Arthur Burns is seeing Schmidt this weekend on the lending facility. Simon's nose is out of joint a bit, but Schmidt will ask for Burns and also we don't want a government-to-government confrontation.

The President: There is another reason. Burns is worried about the size of the deficit. I think Schmidt could do a lot of good with Burns.

Kissinger: Good. We might send Schmidt a letter ahead and say you are heavily influenced by him.

The President: Our program is very compatible with this thinking.

Ash had a good idea yesterday to deal with the windfall money.

[Discussed more about Ash proposal.]

Kissinger: The Democrats are going to be hit hard by your program. They are playing this theme of indecisiveness.

The President: I plan to tell Mike.



Kissinger: I am seeing Bob Byrd. I thought I would tell him my concern about legislative activity.

The President: Good. I am more and more impressed with Bob. I also am having the Speaker and Al Ullman.

Kissinger: I thought I would see all the new Congressmen next week in three groups.

The President: There are some far out ones.

Kissinger: Is it dangerous for me to do it?

The President: No. You should.

Kissinger: May I tell Simon you want Burns to go?

The President: Yes.

Kissinger: The Soviets have to keep detente going for political reasons, but our hold on them is gone. These economic projects would have gotten our hooks into them for ten years. The Chinese will be less scared now, and we will have a rockier time with the Soviet Union. We must put a stop to the disintegration of Executive authority on foreign policy.

Dinitz is seeing Schlesinger. He is playing the good guy. I think he should be instructed to stonewall.

The President: Should I do it?

Kissinger: I think Brent should. On the F-14 and F-15, I hear Schlesinger has given them pricing data. I think he should say he is not prepared to discuss it.

What is your view on using the Vice President for meeting visiting dignitaries? For example, the Sultan of Oman lunch.

The President: No problem; it relieves me from burdens.

Kissinger: On the State of the Union, we will hit interdependence, also something on detente and improved relations with Japan and Europe. Also the paragraph on Executive-Legislative relationship.



The President: I talked to Bob [Hartman]. This will fit right in.

Kissinger: I sent a letter to the Turks to get some movement.

Sadat has told Jordan he would be reasonable in negotiations. Maybe not even make Israel totally leave the passes, but he must have movement. He also thought that the Syrians would accept only a few kilometers in the Golan. I think he may be right.

It is now becoming more clear that the reason Brezhnev cancelled was that Sadat wouldn't give up on the step-by-step.

The President: Not because of sickness?

Kissinger: That was an excuse; if they had really wanted it, he would have gone. Do you want to see the Irish Prime Minister? There is no reason to.

The President: No. Is Moore a problem?

Scowcroft: His wife is sick.

The President: We are getting Dunlop. Jim Coleman will be going into Transportation. I am thinking of Martha Griffiths for HEW. With a black and a woman, we are turning things around.

Kissinger: They are outstanding appointments.

The President: Butz wants to leave in June.

Kissinger: Sadat has arrested 400 Communists.

The President: Is that public?

Kissinger: No.

The President: What would Israel have to give up on the Golan?

Kissinger: There are two big hills west of Quneitra. They are maniacal about hills. I think we should do Egypt first and then either go to Geneva or you take on Israel about the Golan. Or go to Geneva for a while and let the pressures build a bit.



I would like to go to Ecuador and Venezuela and say you are sympathetic to removing the inequities in the Trade Bill.

The President: Was that guy de la Pena?

Scowcroft: Yes.

Kissinger: On Cuba, there is a Foreign Minister's Meeting in March. The Argentines want to invite Cuba. I think we should oppose. Instead I think we should agree there that the lifting of the OAS embargo can be done by a majority. If there is no movement in the OAS, more and more of them will recognize Cuba individually and the OAS will look ridiculous.

Secondly, Cuba has sent us a message through Frank Mankiewicz that they want to talk -- through a New York emissary. I thought we could say we are willing to listen. This will get a slow-paced dialogue started. Right now we have no means to communicate with them. We should stay a half step behind Brazil. We shouldn't push Brazil and we should support our friends who backed us.

The President: What would be the settlement down the road?

Kissinger: I am not sure you want to restore relations before the 1976 elections. I think we should tell them to pipe down in the press. They had cartoons with Nixon's name written with a swastika. We may have to permit American companies in third countries to trade with Cuba. We will have to try to get something from Cuba -- release of prisoners, settle some claims, open emigration -- something. We can keep them out of the meetings in 1975.

The President: If we could get an ease of emigration and some claims settled

Kissinger: Maybe a statement of non-intervention. Castro wants to meet with me. I am opposed to doing that.

The President: I agree. Let's talk about those three things.

Kissinger: This week we will send a note to them saying we are willing to explore what do they have in mind. This will test their security.



The President: How is Bush?

Kissinger: He is doing fine. I was impressed when I was there. Moynihan will write quite a bit. He sent a two-page cable on PL-480.

I asked our Latin American Ambassador to say what the gripes are. One of the biggest is the restrictions on aid. We will end up where the countries think it is a liability to get our aid. Our best friends -- Uruguay, Bolivia, Brazil -- all had major complaints.

We are having a WSAG on Vietnam. I plan to take a tough line. I assume you are prepared to ask for a supplemental.

The President: By all means.



W. ... Did we provide aft? How many staff?

P/K 1 Jan 75

Tuesday
9:18 - 10:18 AM

K Mike is basically isolationist, but a slight on
China & Siberia

I spoke to Doy which confirmed what I said
yesterday. There were discussion w/ U.S. They
won't change their policy but their expectations they
will be in more matter of fact - press had been
ordered not to criticize us & even invitation to
steer business to us. Doy called home & they
most certainly not accept MEX credits.

You must give a double assurance - that position
will promote purposes of act & ^{that} you have given
assurances that liberalization taking place.

Doy suggests a warm letter on details &
the things which have to be done on trade act.

I think you should write warm letter & express
your disappointment w/ act & that kind describe
details. No reason for that.

Comp. forces us into increased risk of cooperation
x In SOU I would add para. of free-trade
partnership but that it won't take a form of
extreme detailed intervention.

I have thinking of conciliatory speech, detaching
restrictions & saying we have to be sensitive to
Comp but they ~~must~~ also have say to change.
For ex: F ~~setbacks~~ expecting new water so
we give up leverage like we did on Agreement.
And E. ~~water~~ / Venezuela invest go to MEX.

And Simons keeps voting against these countries.
P Let's get him in here for a discussion of this
OPEC situation so we can come some way
length. After SOU.

K Good by good idea. No hurry.

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MR # 09-145, #23

State v. 3110104; DoE v. 10/21/09

By del NARA, Date 12/2/09



K Arthur Burns seeing Schmidt this weekend at
Banking facility. Burns more out of spirit a bit, but
Schmidt ok for Burns + also we don't want
a part of govt compensation

P There another room. Burns worried about size
of a deficit. I think Schmidt could do a lot of
good w/ Burns.

K Good. We might send Schmidt a letter
ahead + say you heavily influenced by him.

P Our prog is very compatible w/ his thinking.
Ald had a good idea yesterday to deal w/ a windfall
money.

(Discussed more about coin proposal)

K The Demos are going to be away but hard by your
prog. They are playing this theme of indifference.

P I plan to tell Mike

K I seeing Bob Byrd. I think I would tell him my
concern about legs activity.

P Good. I more + more impressed w/ Bob. I also having
Speakers + Ullman.

K I think I would see all the new Cong. next week in 5
groups.

P There are some for out ones

K Is it dangerous

P No. You should

K Why I tell Simon you want Burns to go

P Yes

K SO has to keep obtaining going for pol reasons, but
can hold on them is good. These prog. would
have gotten our backs into them for CO-ops.

Conrad will be less scared now + we could
have richer time w/ SO. We must put a stop



to disintegration of expe authority on FP.
Denny seeing Schles. He is playing a good
game. I think he ~~and~~ should be instructed
to ~~renewable~~.

P Should I do it?

K I think Brent should be Done F-14/15, I have
Schles has given pricing data. I think he should
say he not prepared to discuss it.

What is your view on using a VP for
meeting dignitaries. For example, Sultan of Oman
Lunch

P One problem, it isolates me from leaders
→ K On SDC, we will hit interdependence, also
centrality on detente & regional relations w/
Japan + Eur. Also a para on Expe - legis
relationships.

P I talked to Bob. This will fit right in.

~~I don't like to push to get some movement.~~
K Sadat has told ~~for~~ he would be reasonable in
negot. Maybe not even make I totally leave peace,
but he must have movement. If ~~what~~ that
Seyras would accept only a few km in Jordan.
I think he may be right.

Now becoming more clear that Bez camp was
that Sadat would not give up on step-by-step

P Not serious?

K That was one speech, if they had really wanted it.

Do you want to see Just PM - no reason to.

P No. Is Moore a prob?

So (Wife richness)

P We are getting Develop. from Colman into Trans.
Thinking of Martha Guffis for HEC. Wife
black & a woman, we are turning things around.



R Ombudsman's report.

P Buty wants to have in fund

R S. adol has accepted 400 consto.

P Is that public?

R No.

P What would I have to give my own Gold?

R There are 2 big bills out of Q minister. They are worried about bills. I think we should do E first & then either go to Cuba or you take on F about Gold. O goes to Cuba for a while - let pressures build a bit.

→ I would like to go to Ec + Vera + say you support the remaining inquiries in track bill.

P Was that guy de la Pena

So Yes

R On Cuba, there is a MEX in March. Argentines want to visit Cuba. I think we should oppose. Instead I think we should agree there that OAS by try can be by majority. If no OAS movement, more & more will recog. Cuba + OAS look ~~at~~ restrictions. 2nd Cuba has sent message that ~~is~~ threatening that they want to talk - then N.Y. mission. I think we ~~can~~ will say we willing to listen. This will get a slow paced dialogue started. Right now we have no means to commitments. We should stay 1/2 step behind the pit. We should not put Budget & should support our friends who backed us.

P What would be settlement down road?

R I not sure you want to restore relations before elections. I think we should tell them to pipe down in press (N written w/ H). We may have to permit ~~to~~ US currency in ~~all~~ countries

