

Scowcroft file

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MR. 01-56, #26, pt 22, 9/19/01

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

By del NARA, Date 10/11/01

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald 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 & TIME: Thursday - February 27, 1975
 9:22 - 10:13 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: The Greek mayor of Savannah told me the guy to get to is Gene Rossides.

Kissinger: I have talked to him. He is totally incorrigible. He was a good guy in the Administration but he is beyond hope on this issue.

I am meeting with the Brademas group again today but I think it is hopeless. To settle it, I should get a bizonal proposal from Greece, take it to Turkey and sell it to all the leaders. Brademas and the others weren't even pretending to be for the U.S. now -- they just want some way to prove they were right. Now they are blaming us for not putting enough pressure on Turkey -- but Macomber says only you and I kept Turkey from violent anti-Americanism.

Ethiopia. We have no overwhelming interest in this region, but it will be apparent that anyone (like Somalia) who relies on the Soviet Union is sustained, and anyone who relies on us is dropped when the going gets tough.

President: Why are all the Arabs supporting Eritrea?

Kissinger: Partly because they are Moslems, partly because Libyans are moving and the Saudis have to match the Libyans, because it is across from Saudi Arabia. (There was a general discussion of African boundary lines.)



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If you give arms, there will be a scream, but it will be interesting to see how the blacks react. They are beginning to oppose the Arabs as a result of Ethiopia and there is a historic antagonism between them.

I would favor starting to ship some things. Don't go in with both feet but don't say that \$8 million is an upper limit. Just start shipping things.

Asad is going crazy.

President: I see he offered peace to Israel.

Kissinger: If we had a leader in Israel, this could be easy -- five to eight kilometers on the Golan would do it. It is a tragedy that Israel is so benighted and their settlements are so close to the line. Otherwise we could go to Geneva and turn it into another CSCE.

France wants to send out invitations to an initial consumer/producer conference now, because the OPEC meeting is next week. I think we should resist that philosophy. I think we should see what results we get on floor prices in the IEA the end of next week. We can't be driven by the quarterly OPEC meeting.

Assuming that oil drops to \$7 with our \$3 tariff, oil would have to go below \$4 before it makes a difference. That is not realistic, and no other country will accept a tariff. I don't care myself. But as an international agreement we shouldn't tell others how to do it. Fix a floor price and let the countries decide themselves how to do it.

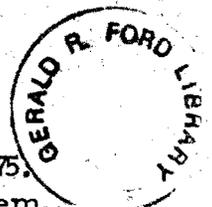
President: Wouldn't a tariff be easily evaded?

Kissinger: What we must avoid is different positions between Enders and Parsky at IEA. If we do that, it lets the Europeans off the hook and they can avoid a decision. France may complain if we put our foot down on the invitation, but we just can't be driven by OPEC meetings.

I told the Saudis we would send Clements and Brown out to talk to them. This may be a bad time to do it.

President: I don't see anything wrong.

Kissinger: I saw Coughlin. Passman wants to compromise at \$75. McClosky bought it but I rejected it. I think we are getting to them.



President: I think we should keep on doing what we can. When Phnom Penh falls, it will have a bad effect here.

Kissinger: Chamberlain was the most popular man in Britain in 1938. People don't thank their leaders for making mistakes, even when it is popular at the time. Cambodia is being cited on the Hill as indicating that we had no interest in Cambodia except to clean out the sanctuaries.

This Congress is a weird group. Secretly, we would get a 90 percent vote on Turkey, but no one has the balls to stand up in public. I told them that they were now organized in such a way that it was impossible to know whom to talk to.



✓ P/K 27 Feb 75

Thursday 9:22 - 10:32 AM

[10:13 AM and Elliott Richardson joined mtg]

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