

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford  
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State  
Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense  
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs  
Richard Cheney, Assistant to the President

DATE & TIME: Sunday, February 15, 1976  
6:06 - 8:05 p. m.

**DECLASSIFIED**  
E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.8

PLACE: The Oval Office

*re-ex 11/27/01*  
MR 01-101, #26, OSD, dt. 3/2/04  
dal NARA Date 7/20/04

Rumsfeld argued there are two ways to approach duration of the follow-on negotiation. Either a fixed date for completion or a target date by which you hope to agree. His idea is that after October '77 we would just keep on negotiating. The Treaty would go into effect.

Note: Give the President the notes from the NSC meeting when Holloway talked about cruise missile programs.

The President: Putting in a target date is just words. I think we must decide what the real date for the interim agreement is.

Note: Take out "nuclear-armed" but fight like hell for it at Geneva.

Note: Rewrite paragraph 2(d) on the review conference for cruise missile range -- but don't cancel it because of verifiability.

The President: Phrase paragraph 4(b) as originally put, with the understanding that we would stick with our deployment rate.

Paragraph 4(c). Use the original language, with agreement that the DOD stipulations would be understood.



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EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5(B)(3)  
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Note:

Reductions: As part of resolving the problems of Backfire and cruise missile, the two sides agree...

Note: The President wants a program for all cruise missiles over the next five years or so.



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NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

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with Ford, Kissinger, and Rumsfeld  
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