

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford  
Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense  
General George Brown, Chairman of the JCS  
George Bush, Director of Central Intelligence  
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs

DATE & TIME: Monday - February 16, 1976  
3:45 p. m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

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

*State Dept. Guidelines*

*MR 01-101, # 27; OSD Ltr 3/2/04*

*By del NARA Date 7/20/04*

President: This morning I met with Fred Ikle. Henry and Brent were there. Fred had a couple of minor points.

I decided on the deferral option. This paper was worked out in a meeting with Don, Henry and Brent last night. This will be a two-part treaty, and we will have an interim agreement with a terminal date of January 1979. [He reads the entire note aloud. Attached.]

Rumsfeld: Has this been given to Dobrynin?

President: Yes, it was given to him at 11:15, with a personal two and a half page note from me to Brezhnev.

Brown: There is one new thing here -- a review of the cruise missile range thresholds. What is that?

Rumsfeld: That was to protect against the possibility that we may move into special verifiability problems.

President: It was a DOD proposal.

Rumsfeld: I think that is the reason.



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Scowcroft: That's right.

Brown: The Chiefs will be with you on this, Mr. President. We worked up this same basic package three days ago. The JCS are on record.



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NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
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REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL . . . . National security restriction  
TYPE OF MATERIAL . . . . . Note  
DESCRIPTION . . . . . Brent Scowcroft's notes from meeting  
with Ford, Rumsfeld, Brown, and Bush  
CREATION DATE . . . . . 02/16/1976  
VOLUME . . . . . 1 page  
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 031400807  
COLLECTION TITLE . . . . . National Security Adviser. Memoranda of  
Conversations  
BOX NUMBER . . . . . 17  
FOLDER TITLE . . . . . February 16, 1976 - Ford, Rumsfeld, JCS  
Chairman General George Brown  
DATE WITHDRAWN . . . . . 06/16/2004  
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST . . . . GG