

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

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

DATE AND TIME: Monday, August 30, 1976
9:40 - 10:40 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

Kissinger: First on Africa.

President: Let me interrupt. We are having a Cabinet meeting. Will you do a foreign policy rundown? This is for the people on the hustings.

Kissinger: I thought I'd do Korea. How about Africa?

President: What do you think?

Kissinger: I could talk about the problem and not the solution.

President: I think Korea came out well.

Kissinger: No question about it. But now Defense is being mock-tough. /Described the continual press briefings./

President: Let's wind it up.

Kissinger: On Africa. I will see Vorster on Saturday and Sunday in Zurich. The question is whether I go on to Africa or send Schaufele again. We have good reports from Nyere and Kaunda. On Namibia, we are about 70% okay. On Rhodesia, there is concern that they can't get the guerrilla movements together.



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

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5
NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. 01111
By uk, NARA, Date 11/25/08

What we need to think about is from your political situation. I don't think the Americans like blacks. I don't want another Texas situation.

President: I think if South Africa is involved in the solution, the perception would be different. I think if it is right, we should do it and the political consequences will come out all right.

Kissinger: Kennedy thinks you should; Connally just says don't stir up the Reaganites. I can't say we can't wait until November 15, but if it goes to January, we will be beyond the point of no return.

President: I think it is right. There will be some backbiting but I think it will come out right.

Kissinger: I am speaking before the Leon Sullivan (O. I. C.) group in Philadelphia.

President: That is good.

Kissinger: It will be about like my Urban League speech. Then I will be at a World Affairs Council dinner at night. It will be Q&A and I hope I can get questions on Carter's foreign policy.

President: Now that we have gotten rid of that son-of-a-bitch Reagan, we can just do what is right.

Kissinger: I think Carter is vulnerable in a number of areas. I think you should do about a speech a week. I don't think you should not campaign.

President: I plan to select the occasions with care, but I do plan to campaign. . . .

Kissinger: Are you planning to do B'nai B'rith? They have asked me too and I haven't yet cancelled. I probably won't be here.

President: I believe I am scheduled to do it.

Kissinger: I would do it at a little higher level than previously to Jewish groups. Tell them what is ahead of them. They are a little suspicious about getting 150% pledges support. More realism I think would be appreciated.



President: You are probably right.

Kissinger: We are in a huge mess in Congress. They are coming after us on the Sidewinders and Mavericks for Saudi Arabia. (Gives the President the Porter cable.)

President: I saw the New York Times editorial today. They want us to curry Saudi favor to keep oil prices down but then they push the boycott.

Would it do any good to get the Congressmen down here?

Kissinger: I don't think anything else will help. We can cut the number of Mavericks a little, but not the Sidewinders.

President: Who should we get down here?

Kissinger: Case, Javits, Humphrey.

President: When do we need it? What is the Maverick reduction?

Kissinger: There hasn't been any. But we can say they won't be delivered until after the current order. The Congressional staffers are going wild -- on boycott, on nuclear proliferation. It cannot go on.

President: I agree.

Kissinger: You think I should go to Africa?

President: Yes, if there is a good chance.

Kissinger: On Namibia it's almost certain; on Rhodesia I'd rate it a little better than 50-50.

President: Go.

Kissinger: On SALT, you know what the situation is.

President: I have to get myself back into that.

Kissinger: We got a note from Vietnam. Do you want meetings? We would say it was for MIA's.

President: As long as that cast was put on it.



Kissinger: They would raise other things. But we could stick with MIA's. Of course we could drag it out, and certainly no conclusion would come before November.

Some of your people think you should talk before the UN.

/Described the drawbacks of speaking to the UN/

President: I am inclined to agree. The odds are about 10 to one I won't.

Kissinger: It can be done if you wish. Scranton is coming in today and may raise it.

I would vote against Vietnam and I would abstain on Angola. Say the situation is still the same but the OAU and all of Africa want it, and you won't stand against all of them. I don't know what your political people will want.

President: How will it play in Africa?

Kissinger: A veto would not help -- an abstention wouldn't hurt.

Then we have this boycott legislation.

President: It is 50-50 I will veto the tax bill anyway.

Kissinger: Then there is one on the Export Control Act.

President: What is the status of that?

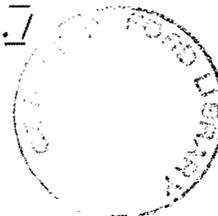
Scowcroft: I will have to find out. I think it is through the Senate.

Kissinger: On Law of the Sea, we have a disaster as head of the delegation.

President: What can we do about it?

Kissinger: We can manage with him, but the economic agencies want to grab everything. Defense wants to split the Committee One off. It won't work -- the LDC's will raise the ante to keep them together.

/Describes what is needed on deep sea beds./



We can't get the Japanese and Soviets without some sort of quota system.

President: Is Simon the problem, or his underlings?

Kissinger: Bill I suspect, on free enterprise principles.

President: How soon must we decide?

Kissinger: This session ends September 17. It would be good if we could make some progress in this session. We might bring Groups 2 and 3 off and leave Group 1 in condition to be finalized next session.

But the economics people are like this on everything. If Zarb hadn't tried to grandstand the Iranian oil deal, we would have had a deal a year ago and we would be making money right now.



P/K 30 Aug 76 ✓

9:40 - 10:40 am

K 1st on Africa

P let me interrupt. we having a Cabinet meeting. will you do a F.P. rundown. This is for people on a briefing.

K I think I'd do Korea. How about Africa

P What do you think.

K I could talk about the pub & write solution.

P I think Korea come out well.

K No question about it. But some defence is being made - tough. (described a situation)

P let's wind it up.

K On Africa. I will see Victor Sabden. The question is whether I go to Africa or send Schaeffer again. We have good reports from Nigeria & Kamerun. Our Namibia was an about 70% ok. On Rhodesia, there is concern that they can't get a general election movements together.

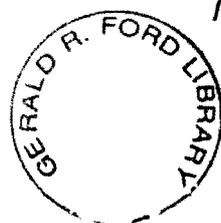
What we need to think about is from your political pt. I don't think a Cans like blacks. I don't want another Texas pt.

P I think if SA is involved, a perception could be diff. I think if it is right we should do it & the pol. consequences will come out all right.

K Kennedy thinks you should; normally just say don't stir up the pagans.

I don't say we can't wait till Dec 15, but if it goes to Jan, we will be beyond point of no return.

P I think it is right - there will be some bombing



but I think it will come out right

K I speaking before here Sullivan group -

P That is good

K It will be about ~~right~~ like Urban Meyer.
Then I will be WAC drinks at night.
It will see Q & A & I hope I can get Q's
on Carter FP

P Now we have gotten rid of that SOB Reagan,
we can just do what is right.

K I think Carter is unlovable in a # of ways.
I think you should do about a speech a
week. I don't think you should not campaign

P I plan to select occasions w/can but I do

plan to campaign ^{around} your birth? They have asked me
K are you planning to do your birth? They have asked me
P I believe I am scheduled to do it

K I would do it at a little higher level than
to finish pay. Tell them what is ahead
of them. ~~If you~~ They are a little suspicious
about 15% support. More realism I think
would be apprec.

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K We are in a huge mess in Corg. They
are coming after us on a Scribner/Monahan
(Chris P. Porter Kubi)

P I saw a N+T editorial today. They want us to
every Saudi favor to buy oil prices down
but they push a boycott.
Would it do any good to get a Congressman
down here?

K I don't think anything else will help, we
can cut a few more a little, but not
a scribner.



→ Friederichs - butz w/ Today on Television
→ Doh & Stahl

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K Case, Jants, Humphrey.

P When do we need it

What is a Munich reduction?

K There hasn't been any. But we can say they won't be delivered till after a current order.

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P I agree.

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P Yes, if there is a good chance.

K On Unambia, almost certain; on Rhodesia a little better than 50-50.

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K On East, you know what set, is

P I have to get myself back into that.

K We got a note from UN. Do you want notes? We would say it was for MIA's.

P As long as that case was put on it.

K They could raise other things. But we could stick w/ ~~it~~ MIA's. Of course we could drag it out, & certainly no conclusion would come before two.

Some of your people think you should talk before UN. (Described a drawback of speaking to UN)

P I inclined to agree. Odds are about 10-1 I would.

K It can be done if you wish. Secretary coming in today & may raise it. I would vote against UN & I would abstain on Angola.

So a fit still same but ~~at~~ OAU & all Africa want it, ~~but~~ & you won't stand



John: Boycott legis - X control

against all of them. I don't know about
your ppl. people will want.

P How will it play in Congress.

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wouldn't hurt.

Then we have this boycott legis.

P It is 50-50 I will veto a tax bill anyway.

K Then there is one on a X control act

P What is status of that?

* S I will have to find out, I think it is
through Senate

K On H.O.S., we have a disaster as head of del.

P What can we do about it

K We can manage w/ him, but a local agencies
want to grab ^{every} thing. I'd want to split
Crate 1/2. It won't work - they h'dc's will
rise a vote to keep them together.

(Describes what would be done on deep sea beds)

We can't get a Japs + Sovs w/o some sort of
quota system.

P Is Simon a job or his underlings

K Bill I suspect, on free enterprise principles.

P How soon must we decide

K This session ends Sept 17. It would be good
if we could make some prog in this
session. We might bring prop 2 & 3 off
and leave op 1 in committee to be
finalized next session.

But a local people are like this on every thing.
If Frank hadn't tried to understand the Russian
oil deal, we would have had a deal a year
ago and we would be making money right now.

