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OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

DATE: January 22, 1974 PLACE: OEOB Office TIME: 7:45 a.m.

SUBJECT: Call on the Vice President by Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge

PARTICIPANTS:

The Vice Presid General Dunn Ambassador I

After an exchange of pleasantries, Ambassador Lodge suggested that the Vice President visit the Vatican as soon as possible. He emphasized that such a visit would be most helpful with regard to solidification of his own position and would reassure the Vatican Secretariat that the United States values the relationship. He spoke of Vatican helpfulness in the past with regard to obtaining mail for our POWs in North Vietnam and also in prevention of import of drugs, especially in France. He also emphasized the fact that the Vatican connection is very pleasing to American Roman Catholics and thus adds an additional dividend domestically.