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I don't ~~know~~ believe I'll have  
any real differences with French President,

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Europe

I was born on July  
Bastille Day

- 1) Met with NATO  
Amb. - 2 hrs.  
Invitations  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr of
- 2) French Amb. personally.
- 3) Inauguration speech.

Eager to cooperate. Europeans  
Reciprocal attitude.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Greens - humane  
honor / deputy

~~Diplomats~~  
Kendra.

[9/16/79]

FOREIGN TRAVEL

Q: What plans do you have for foreign travel and meetings with foreign leaders?

A: I have been in frequent contact with foreign leaders since August 9 and, as you know, I met with King Hussein here last week. I plan a very active program of meetings with world leaders. For example, I will meet with President Leone of Italy in late September and with First Secretary Gierak of Poland in early October. I plan to visit Japan before the end of the year and will also be considering other future travel.

## CYPRUS

Q: Why did the United States not act more forcefully to restrain the Turkish actions on Cyprus? What will the US do now to bring peace there?

A: This Administration has taken every reasonable and appropriate step in our efforts with all parties involved to end the fighting and bring about early negotiations for a constructive solution of the Cyprus problem. We urged both military restraint and diplomatic flexibility to take into account the national dignity and security needs of all parties. In our attempts to bring the parties to the negotiating table, the United States has been willing to take part in any role that accords with the wishes of the parties. We remain willing to do so. The United States greatly values the friendship of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey, and it is in this context that we will continue to offer our assistance.

## US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS

Q: How do you assess the current state of U.S.-European relations, especially in light of the Greek threat to withdraw from NATO?

A: Since I entered the Congress in 1949, I have believed that it is important for the United States to have a strong alliance with NATO and Western Europe. This policy has paid -- and continues to pay -- sizable dividends to all members of the Alliance. I am pleased by the progress made in U.S.-European relations in the last few months. The Atlantic Declaration signed in June marks a renewed spirit of unity and common purpose for the Alliance, and I will continue efforts to broaden and strengthen the partnership that document symbolizes. Further, I will continue the United States' whole hearted efforts to consult and to work with our European friends and allies to guarantee the best possible U.S.-European relationship. This relationship remains fundamental to U.S. foreign policy.

We regret, of course, the Greek announcement of plans to withdraw from military participation in NATO, and hope that this action is only temporary and can be satisfactorily resolved without permanent damage to the Alliance.

## CSCE AND POSSIBLE SUMMIT MEETING

Q: Do you envisage travelling to Europe this fall for a European summit meeting, perhaps in connection with a final meeting of the CSCE?

A: I have no current plans to visit Europe. The CSCE, which is now in recess, will reconvene in early September. The United States and its allies have taken the position that the level at which the final meeting will take place will depend on the results achieved in the session to be resumed next month.

## U.S. -SOVIET RELATIONS

Q: Some say detente is stalled. How do you see future U.S. -Soviet relations?

A: I have informed the Soviet leaders that it is my intention to continue the course of Soviet-American relations charted in summit meetings in Moscow and Washington, in agreements reached by our two governments, and in the general spirit of cooperation that has been established. I am firmly committed to that course. My Administration will approach the many negotiations with the USSR already in progress or projected in coming weeks with utmost seriousness and determination to achieve concrete and lasting results -- results in the best interests of the United States and in the interests of improved international stability.



SALT

Q: Reports say you have assured the Soviet leaders of extensive efforts to further arms limitation negotiations. Other reports say the US has no agreed SALT position. Where do you plan to go next on SALT?

A: We are currently in the process of formulating our position for the next round of SALT negotiations which will resume in Geneva next month. In a message to Party Secretary Brezhnev, I reaffirmed our commitment to further substantive negotiations on the limitation of strategic arms. As agreed at the recent Moscow Summit, the next round of negotiations will focus on an agreement covering the period until 1985.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Q: There has been no apparent movement in U.S.-PRC relations in the past year. When do you foresee full normalization and establishment of diplomatic relations with the PRC?

A: I believe it would be wrong to imply that our relations with the PRC have stalemated. The United States has made very rapid progress since 1971 in establishing contact with a country from which we had been completely isolated for two decades. We have set up Liaison Offices in Peking and Washington. We continue to have an active cultural and scientific exchange program with the Chinese. A Congressional delegation, headed by Senator Fulbright, will leave for a two-week tour of China this Saturday. As I indicated in my address to Congress on August 12, I remain committed to the course of improving America's relations with the People's Republic of China as charted in the Shanghai Communiqué and we look forward to continuing progress in strengthening those relations in the months and years ahead.

## MIDDLE EAST

Q: Threats of mobilization and war are again being heard in the Middle East. Are you optimistic about the chance for a real peace settlement there? When will the Geneva peace talks reconvene and what role will the Palestinians play?

A: In recent weeks, we have held a series of consultations with Arab and Israeli leaders to consider further possible steps towards peace in the Middle East, including the resumption of the Geneva talks.

We believe that progress can be made and we have reaffirmed to each party the commitment of this Government to remain actively involved. We did not enter these consultations with a preconceived blueprint. Rather, we are exploring with them their own views on ways in which further progress can be made.

I do not wish to prejudge the outcome on specific issues at this time since our contacts with the parties are still in ~~process~~ <sup>progress</sup>.

## MIDDLE EAST

Q: The Israelis are reportedly asking the U.S. for \$1.5 billion a year in military aid for the next several years. How will the U.S. respond to this request and will you tie a response to Israeli territorial concessions in the negotiations?

A: Military assistance is only one aspect of the long-standing close U.S. -Israeli relationship and is an expression of our commitment to the security and well-being of the State of Israel. Israel's ability to defend itself is essential to stability and to achieving peace in the Middle East and we will not bargain with the security of our friends. We also believe a negotiated peace is essential to the stability and security of all nations in the Middle East. We are committed to maintaining and extending the progress that has been made.

MIDDLE EAST

Q: Do you support the proposed economic aid to the Middle East -- \$250 million for Egypt and \$100 million Special Requirement Fund (Syria) -- presently under Congressional consideration?

A: I strongly support the proposed legislation authorizing the extension of economic assistance in the Middle East. My Administration considers that the \$250 million for aid to Egypt and \$100 million for a Special Requirement Fund are important to our continued encouragement of closer more cooperative ties with the Arab world. We believe this can be an important contribution in stimulating economic development which will bring benefits to the people of the area and encourage them in following a path of negotiation to reduce the tensions in the area.

MIDDLE EAST

Q: Has the U.S. agreed to give military aid to Egypt?  
Does it intend to?

A: As I told Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi earlier this month, we are prepared to be helpful in a wide range of economic and cultural areas on which the U.S. -Egyptian Joint Commission will focus. With regard to military assistance, there are no plans for this.

## THE U. S. ROLE IN INDOCHINA

Q: Many in Congress oppose further U.S. aid to Vietnam and Congress has severely cut U.S. assistance programs there. What do you see as the proper U.S. role in Indochina?

A: I believe that the proper American role in Vietnam today -- as it has been throughout our involvement -- is to achieve a reasonable opportunity for the Vietnamese people to decide their future for themselves. I believe that the Paris agreements -- if respected -- establish a satisfactory framework for that process to take place. Our military aid, extended in accordance with the Paris agreements, provides the minimal level of support necessary to maintain the security of South Vietnam. Our economic aid is a key ingredient in rebuilding the economic infrastructure of Vietnam and in getting on with the vital process of nation-building. Americans have never broken faith with an ally before and I, for one, don't intend to start now.

## A NEW HANOI OFFENSIVE

Q: Do you anticipate a new Hanoi offensive against South Vietnam?  
Will U.S. forces have to help defend South Vietnam?

A: We do not know if they will launch another country-wide offensive as they did in 1968 and 1972. We do know that the North Vietnamese have sent over 100,000 men and massive quantities of military equipment into South Vietnam over the last year and a half. A number of heavy attacks have recently been launched. Fortunately, the spirit and capability of the South Vietnamese armed forces is high and they have been able to contain these attacks and to retake many positions that had been overrun.

I would not try to predict in advance what the U.S. would do in the event of a North Vietnamese massive offensive against South Vietnam. Any action would, of course, be fully in accordance with our Constitutional processes.



AID TO SOUTH VIETNAM

Q: What will be the net effect of the situation in Vietnam if the levels of aid, currently under discussion on the Hill, are approved?

A: On the military side, we have asked for minimum amounts to assure adequate replacement of equipment on a one-for-one basis, as provided in the Paris Agreement, and to cope with increased levels of fighting. Any cuts from the levels requested will obviously reduce their ability to defend themselves. I am very disappointed with the moves in Congress to cut military assistance so drastically, and I intend to ask the Congress to reconsider its actions.

Our request for economic aid has thus far been cut about in half by Congressional action. Such an amount would fail even to maintain the status quo. We would hope to be able to help in the vital reconstruction process and to give South Vietnam an opportunity to build a viable, self-sufficient economy. Over the long run that would mean less American aid.

## CAMBODIA

Q: Is there any hope of a settlement in Cambodia?

A: We hope so. The other side has failed in its efforts to take Cambodia by military force. I hope that they will soon realize that the time has come for negotiations.

We believe negotiations should take place. The war has gone on too long. We think it is time for the Cambodians to get together to resolve their differences. I would point out that the Cambodian government has recently called for unconditional negotiations -- the United States fully supports that move.

However, unless and until there is a settlement, we will continue to support and assist our friends.

## LATIN AMERICA

Q: Will you comment on U.S. policy towards Latin America?

A: Over the past year the U.S. has given careful attention to its relations with the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Together we have been working to broaden and deepen our relations and important progress has been made toward establishing a frank, open dialogue and regular consultations on a broad range of subjects. Periodic conferences of the Foreign Ministers have been established to facilitate this development. We have also made significant progress toward resolving some longstanding bilateral problems in the region. There are, of course, problems remaining, but I am sure with a continuing spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation, our efforts to resolve them and to further strengthen Hemispheric relations will be productive. I assure you the efforts of my Administration will be directed toward this end.

## CUBA

Q: What will be your Administration's policy toward Latin America, especially in regard to Cuba following Panama's unilateral resumption of relations?

A: Our policy toward Cuba is based on sanctions voted by the Organization of American States (OAS). We continue to attach the highest importance to that Organization and to support its resolutions relating to Cuba. We hope and believe that other OAS members will continue to do the same until such time as the OAS may decide through the collective action of its members that the conditions which gave rise to those resolutions no longer obtain. [i. e., that Cuba no longer poses a threat to the peace and security of the Hemisphere.]

I personally want to reiterate that the U.S. has said it would be prepared to consider changing its policy toward Cuba whenever Cuba changes its own policies. Any change, however, would be undertaken only after full consultation with the other governments of the Hemisphere.

## AFRICA

Q: In your August 11 speech to Congress you failed to mention Africa. What would be your Administration's policy toward Africa?

A: African interests will be respected in the foreign policy of my Administration. I met with the Black Caucus August 21 and discussed with them United States policy toward Africa and toward the member states of the Organization of African Unity. We want to increase our understanding of the problems and aspirations of Africa and will look for new ways in which we can be helpful. As a first step, and at my request, Secretary Kissinger met with the Ambassadors of the Black African nations the day after my inauguration. There he emphasized our desire to look more closely at their concerns and asked to meet with them again soon to discuss in depth issues of common interest.

## TRADE BILL PROSPECTS

Q: How do you assess the prospects for achieving a trade bill this year? Can you reach a compromise with Senator Jackson on MFN for the Soviet Union?

A: I think that the prospects for getting a trade bill this year are good. In my address to the Congress on August 12, I attached particular importance to passage of the Trade Reform Bill. With regard to Title IV, trade with Communist countries, I am aware of sentiment in the Congress for linking trade concessions to assurances of freer emigration from the Soviet Union. We are making every effort with members of the Congress to reach a mutually acceptable formula. I believe that with this spirit of compromise and cooperation we can reach agreement on a bill that will find general support in the Congress and will serve the national interest.

## HUMAN RIGHTS AND FOREIGN POLICY

Q: For the past several years U. S. foreign policy has been attacked for being insensitive to human rights issues in Greece, Korea, Chile and elsewhere. Do you contemplate any change in this approach to policy?

A: As Americans, we can never acquiesce in the suppression of human liberties. Many Americans have fought and died to preserve freedom in foreign lands. We will continue to adhere firmly to the human principles and rights stated in the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights -- not only in international forums, but also in our exchanges with other governments.

We want people everywhere to be free and we will use our influence to encourage respect for human rights, but we cannot refuse to deal with other states on grounds that they do not meet our standards.

I assure you we will continue to work for human rights in the manner we judge to be most effective in enhancing those rights.

## TURKISH OPIUM

Q: Is the United States going to do anything about the Turkish decision to resume opium production?

A: Continuation of efforts to control the flow of illicit narcotics is a priority objective of my Administration. In this regard, we regret very much Turkey's decision to resume opium production. We plan to enter into discussions with the Turkish Government and United Nations agencies concerning the need for the design and implementation of a stringent and effective control system. I am confident we will receive the full cooperation of the Turkish Government.



## DEFENSE BUDGET

Q: You have said that the Defense budget is not sacrosanct but we still need a strong defense. What is your reaction to the Senate's \$5 billion cut in the Defense Appropriations Bill?

A: Our military strength is fundamental to the preservation of peace, and underwrites our diplomatic efforts. I am confident that the House-Senate Conference Committee will arrive at a compromise on the FY 1975 Defense budget which will be acceptable to both houses and sufficient for our national security needs.

For the FY 1976 Defense program which is now being formulated, I intend to review the program personally in the near future, paying particular attention that it supports our overall national security policies. I want to emphasize that we will not save money in the long run by weakening our national defense. Peace can only be built on the clear ability and will of the American people to protect our interests whenever and wherever they may be threatened.

## INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Q: The international economy is seriously threatened. What remedy do you propose to achieve lower oil prices, international monetary stability, and expanded balanced trade patterns?

A: The magnitude of the oil price increases has placed a great burden on the international monetary system. Lower oil prices, effective reinvestment of oil incomes and expanded international trade will serve to strengthen the world economy. We have not yet seen a decline in oil prices, but we believe mutual understanding and cooperation between producers and consumers and continued efforts at conservation can lead to progress. We are also working within the international financial system to provide a means to make the oil income surpluses available to nations whose balance of payments are seriously threatened. We also expect the trade reform act to provide opportunities for expanded world trade through the reduction of tariffs and other artificial barriers.

There is still another measure which is essential. That is the avoidance of nationalistic policies whereby each nation attempts to protect itself at the expense of others. The international economy can be strengthened only through international cooperation, with each nation accepting its share of the burden in meeting our common difficulties.

## FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Q: At a time of increasing economic difficulties and food shortages at home, the Administration is requesting large foreign assistance budgets. What will be your attitude toward foreign aid and PL-480 food programs?

A: Two points should be made. First, increasing economic difficulties, including food shortages, are world-wide and not restricted to the United States. Second, in times of shared adversity the worst policies are those in which each nation tries to protect itself at the expense of others.

We are always examining our foreign assistance budgets to ensure that our best interests are being served. At the same time, we must also ensure that we and others are sharing a common burden of humanitarian and development assistance equitably.

## ARMS SALES

Q: The U.S. is the world's largest supplier of arms around the world, including both conventional cash sales and military grant programs. Do you believe that arming the world, including dictatorships, serves the cause of peace?

A: U.S. arms sales serve the cause of peace and reflect U.S. security interests by maintaining strong allies and friends while reducing direct U.S. involvement around the world. At the same time, U.S. military assistance does not mean that we always fully approve of the internal policies of a country with which we share a common defense objective. Given the legitimate right of all states to arm for self-defense and the availability of alternate sources of arms, we cannot expect that a change in our arms policy would alter the internal policies of other governments.

## NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

Q: What is your policy toward nuclear proliferation in the wake of the Indian test and reports that Brazil, Argentina, Israel, and others may be considering developing nuclear explosives?

A: Our policy regarding proliferation of nuclear weapons is clear.

It is in our interest and the best interest of the world community to limit the spread of nuclear explosive devices and technology.

We oppose the development by non-nuclear weapons states of nuclear weapons or any nuclear explosive devices, since the two are not distinguishable. Our support of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the system of international safeguards for nuclear technology and materials is firm.

[FYI: Should the subject of prospective U.S. sales of nuclear reactors to Egypt and Israel arise, you may wish to note that this step must be put in the perspective that nuclear power is an important source of energy for the future and will be used by many nations. The U.S. has made nuclear technology available to a large number of nations under stringent safeguards, beyond the requirements of the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency). It should also be noted that there are alternative supplies of nuclear reactors, so that this is not a situation where a U.S. refusal to provide the reactors would prevent their acquisition by the countries concerned.

CHAIN OF COMMAND - THE NUCLEAR FOOTBALL

Q: News reports have indicated that President Nixon took with him the "Black Box" of nuclear codes; other reports claim it was left in your custody. Who did have control of our nuclear weapons on that fateful day?

A: All I want to say on this subject is that never was there an instant when control of nuclear weapons was not under full constitutional control and the chain of command totally intact and operating.

## CYPRUS SITUATION

You may wish to preface any remarks on Cyprus with the following general comment:

First, in addressing the situation on Cyprus, I want to express our great concern about the tragic refugee situation on the island and our hope that alleviating their plight will be a major concern of the parties involved, and the entire international community. Through the International Committee for the Red Cross we are contributing to relief efforts in Cyprus. We have already contributed over \$2 million in cash grants, food, tents and other relief supplies. We intend to continue that assistance as long as the need remains.

## CYPRUS

Q: Why does the U. S. take a negative view toward the Soviet proposal for a solution to the Cyprus situation?

A: Our own view is, that an appropriate forum already exists for negotiations, and that the proposal to create still another forum is not a useful contribution to the negotiating process.



## CYPRUS

Q: Are there any plans for a visit to the United States by either the Prime Minister of Greece or Turkey in light of the Cyprus situation and would you welcome their coming?

A: The Prime Minister of any friendly and allied country such as Greece or Turkey is always welcome to visit here.

However, there are no plans for such a visit at this time.

## GUINEA-BISSAU

Q: What is the United States attitude towards recent events in the Portuguese African territories?

A: We are pleased and encouraged by the progress being made in the decolonization of the Portuguese African territories as exemplified by the agreement on Guinea-Bissau announced August 26 in Algiers. We supported Guinea-Bissau's application to the U.N. in the Security Council and welcome the present agreement that will soon bring it into the family of nations. We hope to develop mutually beneficial relations with this new state.

## ENERGY

Q: What is the Government doing to get the price of oil down?

A: In the short term the oil producers have a monopoly power, and they are using it to sustain and even increase the very high prices that were set in last winter's crisis.

But if we act now, over time the power to control these prices will return to our hands. We can and must relaunch and sustain our campaign to conserve oil. We can and must relaunch and sustain Project Independence to move America toward less dependence on oil imports as a matter of highest priority. My Administration will develop and present to the Congress a comprehensive new program to solve the energy problem.

## French President Attacks U. S. Policy

Q: On August 27, French President Giscard d'Estaing said he has been struck by the lack of attention that the United States -- and that you -- have paid to Europe, and he called a Common Market summit to promote European unity. Would you comment?

A: We applaud efforts toward European unity and we welcome vigorous European policies in the spirit of the Atlantic Declaration signed in June at the summit in Brussels. Let me point out the facts relating to the comments of the French President:

-- I met with representatives of all the NATO countries within two hours of my swearing-in;

-- I wrote personal messages to all the Allied leaders the same day;

-- I have met individually with Allied Ambassadors, including the French last Saturday;

-- I am planning personal meetings with Allied leaders as soon as mutually convenient.

My own record of commitment to our Alliance and to Europe is clear. I look forward to a productive and cooperative relationship with France and our other friends in Europe as well as with the existing and emerging institutions of the European Community but this requires reciprocity on the part of our partners.

### Arms Supplies to Turkey

Q: Why has the United States not cut off arms supplies to Turkey as United States law may require?

A: The Secretary of State indicated at his press conference on August 19 that he would need a legal opinion on that question. The legal issues involved are being studied in the Department of State.