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MEETING WITH LOUIS DE VAUTOURNEAUX

FRIDAY - JULY 16, 1976

12:30 P.M. (5 mins.)

The Oval Office

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEETING WITH LOUIS DE VAUTOURNEAUX

Friday, July 16, 1976

The Oval Office

12:30 p.m. (Five minutes)

From: Philip W. Buchen

*P.W.B.*

I. PURPOSE

To greet Louis Giscard d'Estaing, 18 year old son of the French President, who is currently paying a private, unpublicized visit to the United States under the assumed name of Louis de Vautourneaux.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

- A. Background (See TAB A); Biographical Sketch (TAB B)
- B. Participants: Louis Giscard d'Estaing, Bruce and Joy Sundlun, and Philip Buchen.
- C. Press Arrangements: The meeting will not be announced, and will not be shown on your schedule. White House photographer only.

III. TALKING POINTS

- 1. Louis, I was delighted to learn that you are visiting the United States, and we most certainly will respect your desire for privacy and no publicity.
- 2. Susan has the fondest memories of the visit your sister made in 1975.
- 3. President Giscard d'Estaing's State Visit to the United States this May has been one of the most important events in our Bicentennial celebrations.
- 4. The United States will be forever grateful to France for the role your country played in our

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E.O. 13526 (as amended) SEC 3.3  
NSC Memo 3/30/06, State Dept. Guidelines  
By WJG NARA, Date 9/7/2012

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war for independence. The visit by your father and mother gave me the welcome opportunity to reaffirm our gratitude. Your father and I have since met in Puerto Rico. I value my consultations with him, and relations between our countries are benefitting from our frequent contacts.

6. I sincerely hope your stay in the United States will be enjoyable and rewarding for you in every respect.

Attachments

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A



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Attachment A

Louis de Vautourneaux is in the United States for one month as a private citizen, traveling under an assumed name. His father wanted him to learn about race horses and banking, and arrangements have been made for him to visit racing stables and to work for two weeks in a bank.

At the request of the Ambassador from France, Bruce and Joy Sundlun are serving as his hosts and have made the principal arrangements to serve his interests. At Bruce's suggestion, I have also made arrangements for him to visit the White House on Friday, July 16. After the visitor has had a chance to meet you, I will take him and the Sundluns to lunch in the White House Mess, and he will be given a tour of the White House by Mike Farrell.

One matter that is perplexing Louis is the fact that Queen Elizabeth received much greater publicity for her visit than did the highest representative of the French government. You may want to explain how Americans are much more excited about visits by foreign royalty, especially English royalty, than they are about other public figures, however distinguished.



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B

Louis Joachim GISCARD D'ESTAING  
(Phonetic: ZHEEScar dehSTANG)

FRANCE

Son of the President

Addressed as:

M. Giscard d'Estaing



Louis Giscard d'Estaing, 17, is the younger son of President and Mme. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. He has two sisters-- Valérie-Anne, 22, and Jacinte, 16--and a brother, Henri, 19. Louis is a student at a private Catholic high school in Paris.

Like the other children, he campaigned actively for his father in the 1974 Presidential election. Louis, Henri and Jacinte accompanied their parents on a trip to Africa in August 1975. After the completion of their official visits the two younger children and their parents spent several days on safari in Gabon. Like the rest of the family, Louis is an enthusiastic skier. He probably speaks some English.

The Giscard d'Estaings are a close-knit family and usually vacation together at one of the family chateaus. The Giscard ménage includes four dogs.

27 April 1976  
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