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8 11/24/76

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 24, 1976

MR PRESIDENT:

Letter to General Secretary Brezhnev
Concerning US-USSR Trade and Economic
Council

NSC has requested that this letter be signed today as Don Kendall is leaving today for Moscow.

During the staffing process the following comments were received:

Jack Marsh recommends disapproval of the letter.

Bill Seidman (Roger Porter) has no objection.


Alan Greenspan (Mr. Davis) have no comments.

Jim Connor

CONFIDENTIALACTION

November 23, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Brent Scowcroft 

SUBJECT: Letter to General Secretary Brezhnev
Concerning US-USSR Trade and
Economic Council

Donald Kendall, Chairman of Pepsico, Inc. and U.S. Co-Chairman of the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council, has asked for a letter from you to General Secretary Brezhnev that he could present to the General Secretary on the occasion of the fourth meeting of the Council in Moscow on November 30. Mr. Kendall believes that such a letter, focusing on the important role of the Council in the development of US-USSR trade, could have a significant effect on the future role of the Council -- particularly through an affirmation by you that the group will continue to contribute to the development of bilateral relations. Kendall apparently is concerned that problems in our bilateral relations with the Soviets in recent months, together with a change of administrations in Washington, could mean a further decline in bilateral trade and diminution of interest by both governments in the role of the Council. He views a letter from you looking toward the future as an important means of preventing such an eventuality.

I believe that a letter from you to the General Secretary on bilateral economic relations and the role of the Council could have a salutary effect with respect to both. Despite the difficulties in our relations during the past two years, trade has continued to grow -- thanks in part to the efforts of the Council -- and this year will reach more than \$2 billion. Inasmuch as you met with members of the Council at the time of their meeting in Washington last year and sent a message to their session in Moscow in late 1974, a letter to Brezhnev looking toward the future would be an appropriate gesture on behalf of the Council.

CONFIDENTIAL (GDS)

KR 5/18/88

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

The proposed letter for your signature at Tab A would note the importance of the normalization of economic ties between the U.S. and USSR as an element in the effort to build a more constructive relationship, and would refer to the significant growth in trade since 1970 -- owing in no small measure to the Trade and Economic Council.

Your letter to the General Secretary has been cleared with Robert Hartmann's office.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to General Secretary Brezhnev at Tab A for Don Kendall to hand carry to Moscow.

CONFIDENTIAL (GDS)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. General Secretary:

On the occasion of the fourth meeting of the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council in Moscow, I want to convey my personal greetings and share with you my thoughts regarding economic relations between our countries and the related work of the Council.

The Basic Principles of Relations between the United States and the Soviet Union signed in 1972 and reconfirmed at our meeting in Vladivostok recognized the importance of the normalization of economic ties as an important element in the effort to build a more constructive relationship based on mutual interest and mutual benefit. This objective has had and will continue to have my full support.

In recent years, contact between American and Soviet business and industry -- to which the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council has contributed importantly -- has helped to achieve substantial progress in our economic relations. Working in coordination with the Soviet and American governments, the Council has encouraged the expansion of trade, enhanced economic relations and identified the challenges and opportunities of growth in these areas.

The results have been impressive. Overall trade between our countries has grown from less than \$200 million in 1970 to more than \$2 billion so far this year. By contributing to this remarkable

expansion, the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council and its individual members have promoted the mutual interests of both the United States and the Soviet Union.

The achievements of the US-USSR Trade and Economic Council in promoting growth in our trade relations and in attracting the participation in its activities of senior representatives of American business and their Soviet counterparts speaks well for the future success of the Council and for continued improvement in US-USSR economic relations and the further development of constructive, mutually beneficial relations between our two countries.

Sincerely,

His Excellency
Leonid I. Brezhnev
General Secretary of the Central
Committee Communist Party of
the Soviet Union
The Kremlin
Moscow

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: November 23, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Bill Seidman

Alan Greenspan

✓ Jack Marsh

(5042)

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

Wednesday, November 24, 1976

Time:

10:00 A.M.

SUBJECT:

Brent Scowcroft memo, 11223/76 re
Letter to General Secretary Brezhnev
Concerning US-USSR Trade and
Economic Council.

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Mr. Kendall is leaving early on Wednesday,
November 24, 1976.

CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

*Marsh - disapprove
Seidman - no objection x*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: November 23, 1976

Time:

due 11/24
10:00

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Bill Seidman
Alan Greenspan
Jack Marsh

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

Wednesday, November 24, 1976

Time:

10:00 A.M.

SUBJECT:

Brent Scowcroft memo, 11/23/76 re
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ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Mr. Kendall is leaving early on Wednesday,
November 24, 1976.

CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

Disapprove Jim

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delay in submitting the required material, please
telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

LWS

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: November 23, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Bill Seidman
Alan Greenspan
Jack Marsh

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Wednesday, November 24, 1976 Time: 10:00 A.M.

SUBJECT: Brent Scowcroft memo, 11/23/76 re
Letter to General Secretary Brezhnev
Concerning US-USSR Trade and
Economic Council.

ACTION REQUESTED:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Necessary Action | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Agenda and Brief | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Remarks |

REMARKS: Mr. Kendall is leaving early on Wednesday,
November 24, 1976.

No OBJECTION RBP

CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

Phoned to Kendall 11/24 - 11:00 a.m.

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
For the President