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White House Press Guidance

President's Meeting with Austrian Chancellor Kreisky
November 12, 1974

Following this morning's arrival ceremony _____ the President and Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky met in the Oval Office.

This morning's meeting provided the two leaders with the welcome opportunity to review a number of international issues of current interest to both countries. At the outset of their meeting, it was noted that US-Austrian relations are excellent, and that there were no difficult bilateral issues requiring resolution.

This morning's meeting included a discussion on East-West relations. The European Security Conference -- in which both the United States and Austria are participants -- was a topic of discussion, in this context. The President also expressed his appreciation to the Chancellor for Austria's generosity in serving as host for the force reduction talks (MBFR) presently underway in Vienna (NOTE: Austria is not a participant).

In this general category of detente, I believe the President also briefly discussed the prospects for his forthcoming meeting with General Secretary Brezhnev in Vladivostok later this month.

As I have already indicated, this morning's meeting was broad ranging. The President and the Chancellor discussed the situation in the Middle East and in Cyprus, and they spent some time reviewing international economic and energy issues. All in all, it was a very positive and cordial meeting. As you know, the President will give a dinner for the Chancellor at the White House this evening.

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Q: Going back to the discussions on detente, did the issue of Soviet Jews transiting Austria come up -- did Kreisky ask for U.S. support if the numbers increase?

A: As I believe the President stated during this morning's arrival ceremony, the United States attaches importance to Austria's generous policy of hospitality to transient and homeless persons. I do not know whether the specific question you asked arose, but this is the President's position; he values the role Austria is playing.

Q: Did the President and the Chancellor discuss any details concerning energy, next steps between producers and consumers? I know Kreisky mentioned this in his U.N. speech yesterday.

A: I would characterize this morning's discussions as a broad review of the major policy considerations to be taken into account on the energy question -- considerations with regard both to producers and consumers. The two leaders did not discuss detailed next steps, so to speak.

Q: What is Kreisky's title?

A: He is Chancellor -- head of the Government of Austria. Rudolf Kirchsclaeger is President of Austria.

Q: Is this meeting in response to a long-standing invitation?

A: At the time the President took office, he expressed the hope to the Austrian Chancellor that that would be able to meet, i. e., he extended the invitation which is now being accepted. (NOTE: Former President Nixon invited the Chancellor to visit the United States twice: first in 1972 when President Nixon stopped in Salzburg when en route to the USSR; second in 1974, when he stopped in Salzburg when en route to the Middle East.)

Q: Is this their first meeting?

A: Yes, I believe it is.

May 1, 1975

WHITE HOUSE PRESS GUIDANCE ON THE DESIGNATION OF ATTORNEY
GENERAL LEVI AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COMMEMORATION
OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY

The President has designated Attorney General Edward H. Levi to be the United States representative at the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Austrian State Treaty in Vienna on May 15. The State Treaty was signed on May 15, 1955, by representatives of Austria and the four postwar occupation powers, the United States, Great Britain, France, and the USSR. It re-established a united, free, independent, and sovereign Austria.

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Q: Who signed this treaty for the United States?

A: Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Llewellyn E. Thompson, who was then our Ambassador to Austria.

Q: Who signed for the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France, and Austria?

A: Respectively, Foreign Ministers Molotov, MacMillan, Pinay, and Figl.

Q: Who will be representing the other signatories at this ceremony?

A: We do not have this information yet.

Q: Will any other Americans be going to the ceremonies?

A: Yes, the Austrian Government has also invited Eleanor Lansing Dulles, who was very active in Austrian affairs in the Department of State at that time; and Mrs. Jane Thompson, widow of Ambassador Thompson.

Q: How long did it take to negotiate this treaty?

A: More than eight years.