

**The original documents are located in Box 122, folder “Eastern Europe” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Ron Nessen donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

**UNCLAS**

**RECEIVED : 26-10:01 AM**

MEVZCZCWHE012  
\*\*\*\*\*ZZ WTE16  
DE WTE 1565 0861739  
Z 261751Z MAR 76  
FM BRENT SCOWCROFT  
TO DICK CHENEY ABD AF-1  
SAN FRANCISCO COMM CENTER FOR DICK CHENEY  
ZEM  
UNCLAS WH60419

**U.S. POLICY TOWARD EASTERN EUROPE**

**Q: MR. PRESIDENT, THERE HAVE BEEN NEWS REPORTS IN RECENT DAYS THAT SENIOR OFFICIALS OF YOUR ADMINISTRATION HAVE URGED A POLICY OF ENCOURAGING THE SOVIET UNION TO TAKE OVER EASTERN EUROPE ONCE AND FOR ALL BECAUSE SUCH AN "ORGANIC UNION" WOULD LESSEN SOVIET INSECURITY IN THAT AREA AND THEREBY PROMOTE STABILITY. IS THIS YOUR POLICY OR DO THESE REPORTS PRESAGE A CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATION POLICY? DO YOU SUPPORT THESE VIEWS?**

**A: I HAVE NOT READ THE PURPORTED STATEMENT, BUT THAT IS NOT THE ISSUE.**

**LET ME STATE WHAT MY POLICY IS. FIRST, THE ARTICLE CLEARLY DOES EXPRESS MY VIEW. IN FACT, I HAVE BEEN ADVISED THE ARTICLE IS VERY INACCURATE.**

**I CAN ASSURE YOU OF MY VIEW OF EASTERN EUROPE. THAT VIEW HAS NOT CHANGED, AND IT IS ALSO CONTRARY TO THE VIEWS ALLEGED TO BE ADMINISTRATION POLICY IN THE ARTICLE. THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE ASPIRATIONS FOR FREEDOM AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OF PEOPLES EVERYWHERE -- INCLUDING EASTERN EUROPE.**

**I AM TOTALLY OPPOSED TO SPHERES OF INFLUENCE BY ANY POWER AND SO LONG AS I AM PRESIDENT THIS WILL BE THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. I HAVE MADE THIS POLICY A PART OF FORMAL WRITTEN DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS.**

**I HAVE MADE OFFICIAL VISITS TO EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND INVITED EASTERN EUROPEAN LEADERS HERE TO UNDERSCORE THAT POLICY. IT IS A POLICY WE WILL PURSUE WITH PATIENT PERSISTENCE AND FROM WHICH WE WILL NOT WAIVER.**

**MY RECORD IS CLEAR -- IT IS A RECORD I AM PROUD OF.**

**Q: WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT SONNENFELDT?**

**A: I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT WHAT HAS BEEN REPORTED REPRESENTS MR. SONNENFELDT'S VIEWS. I HAVE ASKED THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO FIND OUT THE TRUE FACTS.**

0322  
1565

NNNN

**UNCLAS**

July 25, 1975

PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH EASTERN EUROPEANS

The President is meeting (met) this morning at 11:00 a. m. with a group of Congressmen and Americans of Eastern European background to review the results to be expected from the European Security Conference summit in Helsinki July 30-August 1, 1975.

The meeting will give (gave) the President an opportunity to explain CSCE as a part of the East-West process of reducing tensions and increasing cooperation and stability and to emphasize that while the language of the CSCE declarations supports peaceful change of frontiers and promises greater contacts between East and West, it is not a peace treaty and does not adversely affect the interests of Baltic Americans.

\* \* \* \*

FYI:

You may characterize the composition of the group as Congressmen, Civic leaders and representatives of Americans with eastern European background. Also attending the meeting:  
-- Sec. Kissinger, Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, Max Friedersdorf, and Dick Cheney.

List of participants is attached.

## PARTICIPANTS

Representative Edward J. Derwinski

Representative Thomas E. Morgan

Representative Clement J. Zablocki

Representative Lucian N. Nedzi

Representative Dan Rostenkowski

Representative Daniel J. Flood

Representative Jack F. Kemp

Dr. Kazys Bobelis

President, Lithuanian-American Council

Dr. Lev Dobriansky

President, Ukranian-American Congress

Aloysius Mazewski

President, Polish National Alliance

Joseph L. Osajda

President, Polish Roman Catholic Union

Dr. Andras Pogany

President, Hungarian Freedom Fighters Association

Frank J. Vodrazka

President, Czechoslovakian Society of America

Henry J. Scheib

President, Aid Association for Lutherans

Albert Bosch

National Chairman, Steuben Society of America

Joseph Lesawyer

President, Ukrainian National Association

Dr. Mikulas Ferjencik  
Director, Czechoslovak National Council of America

Uldis I. Grava  
President, Latvian World Organization

Paul P. Dargis  
President, Lithuanian American Alliance

Heikki A. Leesment  
Member, Board of Directors of the American Estonian Organization

Edward Behuncik  
Slovak League of America

Stephen P. Mugar  
Chairman, Board of Directors of the Armenian Assembly

Mike Bachar  
Vice Chairman, Byelo Russian Congress Committee

Henry A. Kissinger

Brent Scowcroft

Max L. Friedersdorf

Dick Cheney