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President's Meeting with French Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues

September 28, 1974

Statement for White House Press Secretary

The President had a breakfast meeting this morning with French Foreign Minister Jean Victor Sauvagnargues (so-van-YARG), who is in the United States for the current session of the U.N. General Assembly. **THE MEETING LASTED 50 MINUTES: SECRETARY KISSINGER, GEN. SLOWCRAFT & FRENCH AMBASSADOR KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET**

During this morning's meeting the President and Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues had a very positive, broad-ranging and useful exchange of views on US-French, US-European relations and international issues including the international energy and financial situation. The President reaffirmed his commitment to working closely and in partnership with the governments of Western Europe on the major issues of current mutual interest and importance. **ALSO ATTENDED.**

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Q: Did the President invite President Giscard d'Estaing to visit the United States?

A: The President asked Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues to convey his good wishes to President Giscard d'Estaing and there was agreement on the value of continuing consultations among the leaders of the West. The President is looking forward to meeting with the French President when a mutually convenient schedule can be arranged, but I do not have anything specific for you with regard to an invitation.

Q: Can you be more specific as to what subjects were discussed in the meeting?

A: There was no set agenda and I really do not have many details for you.

The focus of this meeting, however, was generally on the topics I gave you a moment ago. The conversation covered a broad-range of issues of current interest to the United States and France.

Q: Was today's meeting of Finance and Foreign Ministers at Camp David raised? Will Sauvagnargues attend?

A: The subject did come up in the context of the economic and energy issues mentioned. Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues will be going to Camp David today, but, as before, I would refer you to State for any details on that meeting.

Q: What about the F-104 aircraft replacement issue -- did they discuss the question of who should win the US-French competition?

A: No, I do not believe that subject came up. Generally speaking, I think the Defense Department is your best source of information on the current status of the F-104 replacement.

5. Can you confirm a report in the New York Times quoting French sources that Secretary Kissinger is considering a round of secret talks with oil producing states?

10/4/74

Guidance: I know of no such plans for any "secret talks" with oil producers. As you know, both the President and the Secretary have called for increased dialogue and cooperation between consumers and producers and since the Energy Conference last February, the

4. Do you have any comment on the announcement of French aircraft sales to Egypt? Will this be a destabilizing factor in the Middle East?

1/30/75 GUIDANCE: I have no specific comment on the developments resulting from President Sadat's visit to France. We have made clear on a number of occasions our preferred processes to achieve a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

5. FYI ONLY: If asked, you should refer to Defense any questions resulting from stories about a halt in conversion of Minuteman 2 missiles to Minuteman 3 missiles at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana.

3. FYI: If asked about the French invitation to a producer-consumer conference in April and the U.S. reaction to it, you may say that the Department of State will have a background briefing on international economics issues at 12:15 p.m. today. Questions may be addressed to the State Department.

3/3/75

7. FYI: If asked about French President Giscard's statement that he will visit the U.S. in 1976, you should say that the French President is always welcome to visit the United States but no specific date has been set for such a visit. With regard to an address to Congress, such an invitation would have to come from the Congress.

May 19, 1976

NOTES ON FRENCH-AMERICAN CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

The cancer research exchange program, which President Giscard mentioned last night in his toast to the President, is a tri-partite program operated by the National Cancer Institute in the National Institutes of Health. The three parts of the program consist of:

- 1) an exchange of scientists--they have scientists here working at NCI, and we have sent some there;
- 2) an anti-cancer drug testing program; and
- 3) the exchanging of viruses for testing.

The Program has been in existence for about a year and a half, and the French Government is contributing approximately \$400,000. Our costs are incremental.

GISCARD d'ESTAING

The President spoke by phone today with Valery Giscard d'Estaing from 9:58 a.m. to 10:04 a.m. ~~at 10:04 a.m.~~ to wish him a Happy Birthday.

1. Does the President have any comment about the ~~Common Market vote to accept a tripartite conference of the world's oil producing, oil consuming, and developing countries?~~ This, along with France's refusal to join the International Energy Agency would seem to go against the US policy of a consumers conference before a producers conference. What does the President hope to accomplish along these lines when he meets with French President Giscard at Martinique?

Guidance; I think Secretary Kissinger stated our policy quite clearly in his Chicago speech on November 14 that ~~"We do not see consumer cooperation as antagonistic to consumer/producer cooperation. Rather, we view it as a necessary prerequisite to a constructive dialogue as do many of the producers themselves who have urged the consumers to curb inflation, conserve energy, and preserve international financial stability."~~

I would assume that Presidents Ford and Giscard will discuss these issues at the Martinique summit and it would be premature for me to speculate on the outcome of those meetings.

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