

SEPTEMBER 18, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President met this afternoon with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, who is presently in the United States for the United Nations General Assembly session. Soviet Ambassador Anatoliy Dobrynin, Secretary of State Kissinger, the U.S. Ambassador to the USSR Walter J. Stoessel, Jr., and General Scowcroft participated in today's talks.

As you may recall, Foreign Minister Gromyko participated in the President's two rounds of talks with General Secretary Brezhnev in Helsinki in late July - early August at the time of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Today's meeting provided the opportunity for a cordial, very useful review of the major topics of current bilateral interest as well as international issues of interest to the United States and Soviet Union.

The President and the Foreign Minister reviewed the current status and prospects for the Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) Talks aimed at further limitations on strategic offensive arms. Both agreed on the importance attached by the United States and the Soviet Union to reaching an agreement that will fully implement the understandings reached in Vladivostok last November. The President and the Foreign Minister touched on the US-USSR grain talks that are taking place, and both agreed on the importance of

arrangements permitting such trade to be conducted in a mutually beneficial manner.

In addition to the bilateral subjects, this afternoon's meeting also involved a review of international issues including developments in the Middle East, East-West issues including the Force reduction talks in Vienna, and the implementation by all parties of the European Security Conference provisions. During the course of his current visit to Washington, Foreign Minister Gromyko will also be meeting again with Secretary Kissinger.

#