

FEBRUARY 10, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President and NATO Secretary General Joseph Luns met this afternoon for a broad ranging discussion of issues of current interest to the North Atlantic Alliance. Other participants in the meeting included Paul Van Campen and Caterina Borgman Brouwer, both members of the Secretary General's staff, Secretary Kissinger, Secretary Rumsfeld, Ambassador David Bruce and Brent Scowcroft.

The President welcomed this opportunity for renewed consultations with Secretary General Luns and he expressed his appreciation to the NATO Secretary General for his continued dedicated service to the Alliance, emphasizing the importance of NATO to the United States and all member nations.

The President and the Secretary General reviewed a number of international political developments of importance to the Alliance among them the situation in NATO's southern flanks and the British, Icelandic fisheries dispute. They discussed NATO force improvements and related Alliance defense issues. The President and Secretary General Luns also discussed various international issues, including the Middle East and Angola.

The President and the Secretary General expressed satisfaction with the positive results of the Alliance ministerial meetings in December and January and, at the conclusion of their meeting, agreed on the value of close and continuing consultations among the members of the Alliance.

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