

JUNE 2, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President and His Majesty, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, met for forty minutes this morning following the South Grounds arrival ceremony. Spanish Foreign Minister Areilza, Secretary of State Kissinger and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Brent Scowcroft as well as Spanish Ambassador Jaime Alba and U.S. Ambassador Wells Stabler participated in this morning's meeting.

The President and King agreed with satisfaction at the outset of their talks that relations between the United States and Spain are excellent. In this connection, the two leaders welcome the new US-Spanish Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation as a means to strengthen our already close bilateral cooperation in a wide variety of fields, including defense, and as a solid foundation for closer Spanish participation in the trans-Atlantic community. Their talks this morning focused primarily on bilateral issues. They also touched on the European situation in general and the Middle East. They welcomed this opportunity to continue the useful discussions they began a year ago at Madrid and reaffirmed the importance of a continued close relationship between the United States and Spain.

The President was particularly pleased to welcome King Juan Carlos to the United States on the occasion of the Bicentennial of American independence and expressed the gratitude of the American people for the many generous gifts and contributions of Spain in commemoration of our Bicentennial.

The President will host a State Dinner for King Juan Carlos this evening at the White House.

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