THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Nixon

Amb. Henry J. Tasca, U.S. Ambassador to Greece

Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE:

Thursday, March 28, 1974

PLACE:

The Oval Office

The President: The Soviets have long-range strategy to subvert the free world.

Our emphasis on regional blocs has falsified the picture. There is no difference in different kinds of Communists.

Take 1955. What were the objectives of Khrushchev and Molotov? What have they done since then? It's fantastic.

In the Middle East, the Soviets have a tremendous foothold. They won't give it up. In Italy, they are close to coming to power. In Europe, they are trying to break up NATO and Finlandize Europe. In Germany, the Communists have substantially infiltrated.

In summary, they have done very well. In the economic realm, we haven't realized that our economic strength and financial strength are basic to our deterrence.

In Latin America, the Communists have penetrated the Vatican. In Chile, the bishop supported Allende's coming to power.

In terms of bases, raw materials, forces, whatever, we are in bad shape.

We are organized wrong regionally. We must organize so that when there is a problem in some part of the world, it is seen from the perspective of Moscow.

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I want a NSSM on this subject. Tasca says we

<u>Tasca:</u> We ought to deal with organization as part of it. Perhaps put all Communist states in one region.

The President: Whatever we do, let's do it systematically -- even if we stay where we are, which I don't think we should do.

It is incredible that there is no place in the U.S. Government where organized religion is dealt with on a foreign policy basis.

We are not coping with Communist infiltration and the insidious philosophic inroads.

I make my people read Daniel Bell's book <u>Post-Industrial Society</u>. It tears Marxism apart.

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