MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Richard Nixon
Major General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Delegation of Soviet Governors (See list attached)

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, May 28, 1974
11:30 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House

President: Let's have a picture of each.

Lyashko: It was ten years ago you were here.

President: That was a great trip. I have very pleasant memories.

[Each was introduced to the President.]

President: [to Dobrynin] As soon as Kissinger gets back, I will give the highest priority to our talks.

[To the Governors]: I am glad you will see Oklahoma, Wyoming, Spokane, San Francisco - - so you will see the diversity of the United States. It is very much like the Soviet Union. Moscow is not the Soviet Union, and Washington is not the U. S. I am fortunate to have been in many places in the Soviet Union, and General Secretary Brezhnev has promised that I will see more this year.

Our two peoples are diverse but united in one course. Our systems are different and we have interests all over the world. But we have one common interest. The two superpowers have the peace of the world in our hands. In dealing with each other as equals, we have made progress toward peace and will make more out of the upcoming trip. On your visit you will get a warm welcome because the American people like the Soviet people and support our efforts toward peace.
Lyashko: Thanks for your greetings and your invitation to visit your country. We were invited by the National Conference of Governors. We are convinced we do have the possibility to strengthen our ties as laid down in the agreement on contacts which you and General Secretary Brezhnev signed. Your Parliamentary group came to Moscow and now we are here. We will be glad to see and hear about your country. As you put it so well, understanding between our peoples will contribute to better relations and to peace and understanding in the world. Our delegation will serve this great course. It is a tight schedule and we will do our best to carry out the program, following the goal to better relations between our countries.

When you visited, you told me you had a Golden Gate, and so do we. Then you said Kiev was destroyed and rose from the ashes, and also San Francisco. The reasons were entirely different. Here it was the forces of nature; we had very serious war. Our peoples and government must do all possible so that a war of destruction won't happen in the future. When we get to San Francisco, we must see the Golden Gate. I am sure we will love it like the other cities. As we meet with American governors and meet with the people, this will contribute to peace and understanding in the world.

President: I visited the Soviet Union in 1967 as a private citizen. I went to Alma-Ata. I went to the market one morning. No one recognized me, but suddenly a man came up and said, "You are former Vice President Nixon. I know you are now a private citizen, but when you return, tell the American people the Soviet people want peace with the American people. I met an American soldier at the Elbe at the end of the war. I said I like the American people and he said he liked the Soviet people." There is much symbolism there. We did much together in the war and now we must do much in peace.

Lyashko: We know you are preparing for another visit to the Soviet Union. Your visit will serve the causes already outlined in General Secretary Brezhnev's visit here and your previous visit. Great strides have been made in understanding and in political and cultural ties.

President: The press wants a picture. Let's walk in the Rose Garden. My daughter was married here two years ago.

[They walk in the Rose Garden]

President: We can grow apples here. They are used for jelly.

Lyashko: In our country also.
President: That is a magnolia. Each President plants a tree. This one was planted by Andrew Jackson -- 125 years ago. You history goes back much farther than ours.

Lyashko: In the Ukraine we have a tree that is 700 years old.

President: I'm sorry you can't see the sequoia. They are the oldest things in the world. There is a sequoia I planted.

Lyashko: You remember three girls in Kiev at dinner playing the strings? "When friendship fades away . . . ."
SOVIET GOVERNORS

A. P. Lyashko, Head of Delegation -- Chairman, Council of Ministers of Ukranian Soviet Socialist Republic

A. M. Kalashnikov, Deputy Chairman, Council of Ministers of Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic

G. I. Usmanov, Chairman, Council of Ministers of the Tartar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic

N. T. Kozlov, Chairman, Executive Committee Moscow Region Soviet of Peoples' Deputies

N. F. Aksenov, Chairman, Executive Committee Altay Area Soviet of Peoples' Deputies

L. N. Kuznetsov, Chairman, Executive Committee Tyumen Region Soviet of Peoples' Deputies

A. K. Dzhulumkhamedov, Chairman, Executive Committee Tselinograd Region Soviet of Peoples Deputies

K. V. Matyushevskiy Chairman, Executive Committee Brest Region Soviet of Peoples' Deputies

Ambassador Dobrynin

Valentin Kamenev, Soviet Interpreter

U. S.

Charles Byrley, Director, National Governors' Conference

Charles G. Whitmire, National Governors' Conference

Cyril Murmecw, U. S. Interpreter
Soov Garamas 28 May 74

I was in a meeting with

Lenin - Tongues are your wish and

I am very grateful. Very pleased and

Earn very interested and

Komm. Kagan

Ahmed Ali

Tajikistan - Russia which is 900

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Altai Shikha

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From TURK.

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interested alliance, and. But we know

1 common mistake. It's a very common

person's word in much smoke. The

world of each other can't we have

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more and according to. On your

work again and get common advice

because 10 people with 20 people together

are good.

Kazakh: Fingers for peace is very warm.

One married by R. C. B. A.
We cannot understand the true potential of our society if we do not acknowledge the contributions from all walks of life. Every individual has something unique to offer to society. By embracing diversity and promoting inclusivity, we can unlock the true potential of our society and create a more equitable and prosperous future.
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whelded in. They want you pay
want. Great offices have him much in
understand in polt & industrial.

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by daughter were married for 2 yrs ago.

Wallace P. Ford

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in. Our church old.

P. Thote hopetion. Each 2 planta a tree,
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your book was look much
fatter forever.

In. The American have a tree 700 year
old.

P. Some you can't see anymore. Of that
Captin window. That is required.

In. You mention frist in kind. Kinship play
Things when friendships pirey far away.