

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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. Your 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"

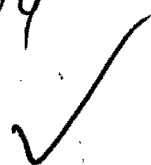
SOVIET GOVERNORS

- A. P. Lyashko, Head of Delegation -- Chairman, Council of Ministers of Ukrainian 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. Dzhulmukhamedov, 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 Muromcew, U. S. Interpreter

Sov Governors 28 May 74



P Let's have picture of each
Lyoko - 7 years ago you will like
P That was great trip. Very pleasant memories
(Each one was introduced to Plus)

Russian

Kama River

Alma Ata

Tyumen - Siberia wheel oil & gas

Byelorussia - Famous statue of Best (Sov Hero)

Altai (Siberia)

Fair & Ministry

P Today
As soon as K gets back, highest priority
Team talks.

Glad you will see O'Leary, Wyo, P. Khan, S.F.
As you will see diversity of ~~SOV~~ SOV. Very
much like SOV. ~~Some~~ Moscow is not SOV,
& such as SOV. I am fortunate to have
been in many places in SOV & Bay have
promised that I will see more this year.

Our 2 projects are almost but united in
one cause. Our systems are diff. & we have
interests all over world. But we have
common interest. Two 2 superpowers
have piece of world in our hands. In
doubling w/ each other we = we have
would pay toward peace & will make
more out organizing trip. Our eyes
exist you will get warm welcome
because US people like SOV people & support
our efforts toward peace

day after

Thanks for greeting & warm welcome.
We invited by World Conf of Governors

We announced we do have possibility to strengthen
our ties as laid down in agreement on
contracts you & signed. Parikraman group
& now we have. Will be glad to see & learn
about your country. As you put it so well,
understanding bet our people will contribute
to better relations & to peace & understanding
in world. Our delegation will serve
this great cause. It is tight schedule
& we will do our best to carry out prog, following
goal to better relations bet our countries.

When you visited, you told me you had
golden gate, & so do we. Then you said
their destroyed & rose from ashes, & also SF
Reasons were entirely diff. Here faces of nature;
we had very serious war. Our people & govt
must do all possible to avoid destruction visit
happen in future. When we get to SF we
must see Golden Gate. I hope we will visit
also it & other cities. As we meet w/
US govt meet w/ people, this will
contribute to ^{understanding} peace in world.

I described SF in 67 as private cit. I went
to Adnan Qta. I went to market one morning.
No one recognized me but suddenly a man
came up & said, you former VP of India. I
knew you were private citizen, but when
you return, tell our people. So people
want peace w/ our people. I met to SF
section at E. side at end of war. I
said I liked SF people & he said
he liked US people. There much
separation there. We did much

in war + now ~~we~~ must do much in
place.

L We know you preparing another visit
to S.O. Your visit will have cause already
outlined in Berg visit + your previous
visit. Great stress being laid in
understanding in pol + cultural ties.

P Pass words picture. Let's walk in road garden
by daughter was married here 2 yrs ago.

Walk in Rose Garden

P Grow apples. used to get

L Our charity also

P Thiba magnolia - Each P plant a tree.
This one by Andrew Jackson - 125 yrs
ago. your brother got her much
further from home

L In Abraham had home a tree 700 years
old.

P Sorry you can't see sequoias. O.P. best
trip in world. There is sequoia
plant.

L You remember 3 girls in Riv at dinner played
things.

When friendship fades far away