MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:
- President Gerald R. Ford
- Ambassador Shirley Temple Black, Ambassador to Ghana
- Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, November 12, 1974
12:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House

Black: The last time we met was in 1967.

President: When do you go off to Ghana?

Black: The day after Thanksgiving. I had good briefings and good industry representation.

President: You did a great job in the United Nations. You'll do a great job in Ghana also. Will your family go with you?

Black: Yes. All of us but our son.

President: We have a Susan also. Bette sends her regards. She hoped to come in.

Black: She has been an inspiration. I said that in public.

President: You paved the way. It has been quite a thing. Then with Happy. Happy is coming down. She is at the point where she needs reassurance.

Black: I would be happy to talk to her. It is hard on the arms.

President: Yes. I am always pushing Bette.
Black: I almost had to resign. The medical evaluation said I was unfit for overseas duty. I asked why and they said it is the five-year rule. They don't enforce it for men who've had a heart attack. I said I would take it to the President and the country. It was also just after Mrs. Ford's operation. I gave them a week and they retracted.

President: What kind of an Embassy do we have? I have never been there.

Black: It is a nice chancery. We have 33 U.S. employees and 44 local employees. There are 22 in AID and six in USIS, and about 267 Peace Corps.

President: That is a big one.

Black: It started in Ghana. There has never been a Peace Corps problem in Ghana.

President: The Peace Corps can be very effective. There have been unfortunate examples which gave it a black eye with the Congress. I think sending the technically oriented people -- bricklayers and so on -- is good, so they aren't being swamped with kids.

Black: The average age of the volunteers in Ghana is 27, which is older than the overall average. I am pleased to go to Black Africa because I think we are not doing enough to hold out our hands to them.

President: Is it mostly technical assistance or grants?

Black: There are projects like roadbuilding, and so on. I don't really know.

President: How is the economy?

Black: It's not so good since the oil crisis. They have one oil well of their own, but import from Nigeria and the Soviet Union.

Their major product is cocoa. The price is high but it doesn't go to the growers. Africa has the raw materials and this is the time when we should try to keep countries from nationalizing. Is that right?

President: We vigorously oppose that, especially when they do it without adequate compensation. I understand the nationalist impulse, but we hope to avoid it, because I think private enterprise can do a better job of producing and marketing. Tell them that. But in any case, there must be adequate compensation if there is nationalization.
Shirley Temple Black 12:30 PM
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Dear Mr. Secretary,

I trust this note finds you well. I am writing to inform you of the recent developments in our discussions regarding the purpose and goals of the new organization you are heading. I believe it is crucial to clarify our objectives and ensure that they align with our overall mission.

I am particularly interested in the role of the new organization in promoting international cooperation and the interests of the United Nations. I think it is essential that we work closely with the United Nations to achieve a common goal.

I think it is important that we maintain a strong relationship with the United Nations. I believe this is crucial to achieving our common goal.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Shirley Temple Black
It is worth noting one point.

Good judgment. I don't really know.

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One may only print, apply, or generate

Arbitrary instruction wrong, but hope to avoid.

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any case, complete alignment.