



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State  
and Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs  
Dr. James R. Schlesinger, Secretary of Defense  
Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant  
for National Security Affairs

TIME AND DATE: Saturday, December 7, 1974  
8:55 a. m.

PLACE: Breakfast Meeting  
The Pentagon

Kissinger: Buckley says the military is dumping on the Vladivostok agreement.

Schlesinger: That is absolutely wrong. All the leaders are solidly behind it.

Kissinger: We do have one problem with the agreement -- the issue of "ballistic" on bomber armament. If I made a stink on the word ballistic, I fear they may try to extend it to missiles on submarines, etcetera. I would tend to drop the phrase and tell them that we will interpret it as meaning ballistic.

Schlesinger: Is Vietnam hot enough to put a carrier in?

Kissinger: I am inclined to think we should put them in early. Once they are committed, they won't stop for five carriers. I would put it in now.

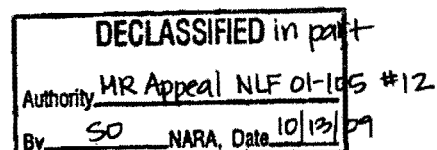
Scowcroft: There aren't many measures we can make.

Schlesinger: We can rotate B-52's into Thailand from Guam, if you will let us bring them back out.

Kissinger: I think the Soviet SS-9 now is mostly for use against China.

The Chinese, by the way, said you would be welcome in China.

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Schlesinger: Will we get a decent oil bill?

We must have the flexibility to meet an offensive.

Are the Israelis trying hard to undermine Sadat?

Kissinger: Yes. It's a disaster.

I am giving a press conference. I will open with the Turkish statement.

At the NATO meetings, we have.....

Schlesinger: Averoff is not coming. He would like to come to Washington.

Kissinger: It is probably a good idea in June.

Schlesinger: How is Bitsios?

Kissinger: Outstanding. He ought to come first. If the Turk is there alone, you should talk to him. Lean on him as a friend -- we are not unsympathetic.

Schmidt says Goodpaster is poisoning the German generals against Haig. He says it would help if we would do something nice for Goodpaster to show that NATO is not a dumping ground.

Scowcroft: The President could attend a parade or put a medal on him.

Kissinger: The medal is plenty. He shouldn't be rewarded for being a crybaby.

Schlesinger: How about [REDACTED] They want to reestablish it. It would help for coverage in the Middle East. State wants to wait.

Kissinger: Let me handle it. We'll check. The damn State Department...

Schlesinger: How about attendance at South African events? McLucas was told he couldn't go.

Kissinger: Of course he can. Don't ever do that.

Schlesinger: The Enterprise is available to go into the Mediterranean in February. It's crossing now through the Indian Ocean. Do we want it in the Mediterranean?

Kissinger: We may need it. The Israelis I don't think will offer much. Allon has said he wants to see what Egypt will offer. What can they offer? If that negotiation blows up then we better move the Enterprise into the Mediterranean. We need contingency plans for seizing the oil fields and for another war -- holding off the Soviet Union.

Schlesinger: Rosenthal is getting better.

Scowcroft: I wonder.

[There is further discussion about Cyprus and Turkey and Israel's interests in the Cyprus issue.]

Kissinger: We should study the question of giving military aid to Egypt.

Schlesinger: I agree, if you can pull it off politically.

Kissinger: If we can just sell 20 F-4's to Egypt, Sadat could show it to his generals.

Schlesinger: On military supply for Israel, all but some of the critical material is scheduled for shipment before April.

Kissinger: Can you hold it until after February? We can give it then as a reward, or if negotiations fail, as a threat. But not before the Brezhnev visit.

Schlesinger: We can reschedule it to slow it up some.

[Laser guided bombs were discussed.]

Schlesinger: Off the North African littoral, we would like to go with our reconnaissance to 25 miles, instead of 50 miles. Off Libya and Algeria.

Kissinger: All right.

Scowcroft: If it takes a pile of paper, I will get it.



Kissinger: At NATO, I would hold the nuclear package for now. About March would be the best. I think Brezhnev might be ready to move on MBFR in preparation for the summit.

Schlesinger: Leber is trying to reassure me on the Portuguese. He met with their Defense Minister, Alves, and says they will let us use the Azores.

Kissinger: I doubt it.

Schlesinger: I understand the Germans won't let us fly from Frankfurt in an Israeli war.

Kissinger: Genscher says the Foreign Office won't protest the use of Bremerhaven. But Schmidt didn't commit himself at all.

Schlesinger: I am getting tired of those guys.

[There was discussion of Thailand, Taiwan,  
and military cooperation with the French.]

Kissinger: We should say that gestures are not enough. We must have performance.



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