MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:
President Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, January 21, 1975
9:33 - 10:18 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House

Kissinger: I am testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Humphrey thinks it is a mistake to have an Executive session.

The President: Is that your request?

Kissinger: I can talk more frankly and get better support in the private sessions, but I could manage public sessions well.

I would like to bring up some more esoteric subjects -- like Law of the Sea.

President: Fine, can you give me some background?

Kissinger: We need a new negotiator for Law of the Sea. I suggest Paul Katz or Jack Irwin.

The President: Irwin is not forceful. Let's go with Katz.

Kissinger: We need to move on the Indochina supplemental.

The President: Let's have a Leadership meeting next Tuesday or Wednesday. Shouldn't we have Schlesinger and Brown too?
Kissinger: Of course, Brown could brief on the military situation and I could go over the political situation.

We have an MBFR meeting Thursday. There is no fundamental decision to make. We'll have you a book by tomorrow night. Our original decision was insane. There is no chance of Soviet acceptance. We have now proposed a nuclear package sweetener. The significance of the sweetener is not the withdrawal but that it results in a de facto ceiling — that may be attractive to the Soviets.

The President: What about the second stage?

Kissinger: The present position is we do this in exchange for a common ceiling at the end of the second stage. We should hang with it but we may have to give way on getting the Soviet approval. Our big problem is the Soviet-perceived weakness of our government.

We gave Dobrynin the letter from you.

The Syrians now are becoming more moderate and saying five-to-ten kilometers would be fine. But we can't mention that to Israel right now.

The President: Max Fisher is coming in later this week.

Kissinger: Dobrynin asked whether you thought you should ask for the removal of Section IV of the Trade Bill. I think it is premature.

The President: I really think so.

Kissinger: I could say to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee let's wait a bit and see the developments.

The President: If we ask for removal of Section IV and EXIM, that will divert Congress from the energy and tax programs. Let's focus on one thing at a time.

Kissinger: I think your speech is coming out well.

The President: If they don't have a program, they at least shouldn't try to stop ours.

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS
Kissinger: Dobrynin said the collapse of authority here is most worrisome. He says the Select Committee on Intelligence will not be understood by the Politburo.

The President: Did you see that McClellan and Stennis opposed it?

Kissinger: On SALT, there are no major differences. We can't afford a blowup on Vladivostok.

The President: What things are there?

Kissinger: There is the cruise missile. Vladivostok is ambiguous on it, but there is a loophole in the Aide Memoire. We are going to try a formula, but we may have to come back to you on it.

We have the problem of Minuteman III at Malmstrom. We may want to hold up on that.

The President: Is Colby still talking collateral constraints?

Kissinger: No, we are in good shape on that. We have a list of must issues and another of desirable ones.

There is a problem on telemetry. If we ask them about that, we may push them further than they now propose.

Kissinger: There is a new Chinese constitution, that even codifies the anti-Soviet line.

The President: How about Cyprus?

Kissinger: The last meeting was bad. The Turks are like the dumb Israelis. They are not helpful at all right now.
Dear Mr. Humphrey,

Monday, Dec. 9th 1975

P.S. just a quick note.

I hope we can talk more freely and get both support in public sessions, so I could change public sessions well.

Would be great to bring up some more student groups the hard way.

P.S. I have a separate memo from background.

I have some support for H.S. I hope it will help.

K. I am not sure, but help the kids.

K. We need to move on something supplemental.

K. We have something with start next week.

Check with me about Schles & Branson too?

K. Of course, but we will bring in jail for that.

K. go out and sit.

We have NLF party tonight. The fundamental problem - have a break by Tuesday night. Our original decision was vision - no chance of acceptance. We have some proposals with a smaller package situation.

The key of the situation is not a withdrawal but an effort to move on logically - that may be attractive to us.

What about 1st stage?

I want to do this in exchange for some editing at end 1st stage. We should have a bit of a break.

Don't give up on getting some approval.

Don't put it on to猛地 commit from here.

We have to do little from here.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DECLASSIFIED

AUTHORITY: 20-US-5, 20-US-6, 2/16/75

BY: [Signature]  NLF, DATE: 2/16/75
3-10:9:00 am would be fine. But we can't maintain that for I suggest now.
P. When it's done coming in don't this with
K. Only asked whether you think you should ask for
removal of Section 17. I think it premature.
P. I think that's true.
K. I would say 1.35-1.35 late with a bit free.
  
P. I have some for removal of Section 17, KM, that will
  not seem from coming out of here.
K. I think you said it's coming out well.
P. If they don't have a prep, they do start but try
to stop now once.
K. Only said at collapse of Section 17, you in motwryan
  does the Sub. Charge in detail will not be made to
  agree.

P. Are you sure that Mr. Wilson or Schmidt opposed it.
K. Our seat, that are in major differences. We can't
  afford the literary on Vlad.

P. What thing are these?
K. There is a move similar. What is analogous
  are it, but there is a loophole in the.

aren't going to try a formula, but we may have
  to come back to you on it.

We have a part of MT III at midnight. We may
  want a huddle on that.

P. Is Potting still talking about different constraints.

K. No, we've good things in that. We have a bit
  of rest of another delicious one.

There is a part of American off America, that should be,
  not every single item from them now again.
I have had problems with my laptop recently. It has been acting strange and has been crashing. I tried troubleshooting it myself, but I wasn't able to fix it. Finally, I went to a professional to have it checked, and they found a hardware issue. They replaced the defective parts, and now everything is working fine.