MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:
President Ford
Max Fisher
Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:
Wednesday - January 22, 1975
5:15 p.m.

PLACE:
The Oval Office
The White House

Fisher: I haven't seen the new decorations in this office before.

President: That's right. We just finished it recently, while I was in Colorado.

Fisher: I am leaving tomorrow for Israel. I was telling Brent that my first appointment is lunch with Rabin. I just need to have a chance to get a feel for the situation. I will hold what you tell me in confidence, but I want to do what I can for peace. We must do this.

President: I agree. My sense of what is the consensus of everyone in the area is that we have to move if the situation is not to deteriorate.

We think there is a unique opportunity to move. I have talked to Allon and I am in communication with Sadat. Henry is going to Jerusalem about the 10th, and if the situation develops properly, he'll go to Cairo briefly. If we can get a breakthrough, we should be guaranteed peace there for at least a year or two.

Fisher: What will it take?

President: I'm convinced Israel has to give up the passes and the oil fields — not to Egypt, but to make it a demilitarized zone. You will be asked what is the time duration of the truce commitment; this must be negotiated.
Israel wants a big one -- Egypt has offered nothing. Unless there is an agreement along this line, there will be a stalemate and the chance of conflict is greatly increased.

Fisher: Will Egypt be able to make an agreement by itself?

President: We think yes.

Fisher: If they give up the oil, what are the chances for a guaranteed supply of oil?

President: I haven't heard that it was mentioned. Was it, Brent?

Scowcroft: Allon did not mention it, as far as I know.

Fisher: That may come up, and I just wanted to know how to deal with it.

Scowcroft: I certainly think we would be willing to discuss arrangements.

Fisher: I can play a useful role if I speak to them frankly. I can't speak for you, but I can give them my honest appraisal.

President: They are very interested in military and economic aid. I talked about this and about the oil and passes to Allon. He made no commitment. I told him that it shouldn't be thought of in terms of a quid pro quo, but that if there is no progress, Congress wouldn't be receptive to an aid request and I couldn't propose it. If there is an Israeli/Egyptian agreement, it creates a totally different environment. The Congress and I are both interested in peace. A new outbreak of conflict, with another possible embargo, would ruin our influence with the Arabs and would be far bloodier than the last war. We want to keep the Soviets out and have friendship with the Arabs.

Fisher: You don't have to put it on a quid pro quo basis; it is just reality. Is Egypt willing to give concessions?

President: Israel wants non-belligerency. Egypt can't do that, but they can give much of the substance without the fact of it.

Fisher: A piece of paper doesn't mean much anyway. I think I now have a feel for it and I will convey your thoughts.

CONFIDENTIAL
President: I had a good meeting with Allon. He is impressive -- he has a tough job. Sadat is in a tough spot -- he turned down Brezhnev and could use a settlement. Rabin could be a statesman and make an agreement which would help us all.

Fisher: I will talk with the opposition too, but I can't be so frank with them. Has there been any discussion of the Syrian situation?

President: There has been no discussion by us that Israel has to give up the Golan. There is no tying-in of Syria with a Sinai agreement.

Fisher: Is there anything else?

Scowcroft: Stress the need for movement now, as the President said. Allon may have a more relaxed view.

President: Absolutely. That is the key to it.

Fisher: When does the UN thing come up?

Scowcroft: The UNEF renewal is April.

Fisher: That fact that you and I talked will be useful with Rabin. I will give you a report of how it goes.

President: Henry and I would both like to see your report.

Fisher: I will see Rabin, Allon and Peres -- each alone.

Let me say one other thing. I am not worried about the trade thing. I think emigration will keep on. I made a lot of calls in the Jewish community and they have been very quiet.

On the economic package, I think the positive approach is good. I think we are at the bottom now and it will come up in the Spring. The 92 percent of the people with jobs feel secure. Easy money is the key. If you need a new Treasury Secretary, Paul McCracken is great.

President: I have my eye on him. He is one of my favorites. The Democrats have been trying to talk me out of my import tax. I am going to do it -- otherwise they would dawdle forever.
Fisher: I agree.

President: I am going to fight.

Fisher: I think what scared the people was the size of the package. People don't understand -- you have to sell it. The Democrats have no alternatives but rationing. That is the worst thing. You have to go to the people. It will take a selling job, and it will be a tough one over the next few months.

President: I hope the automotive people will help.

Fisher: They agree. When you are ready, I think they will enlist. I will help you. I was involved in the wartime rationing -- that would be a disaster. I will take an active role.

Things will turn up in April. You can't restore confidence in the winter time.

[The meeting ended.]
F. Have not seen a overrun 
F. Think right. Can't get one. 
F. I have to know. We have been at it 
F. For first person. I have to know. I just 
F. Have to know. For first person. We are 
F. Do now. For first person. Can someone 
that we have to know. If it is not to 
F. The Chinese. They are people. I mean. 
F. Talked to Allen and the Communists at Shelt. 
F. Going to them about 10 days. If it drops quickly 
F. If we can 
F. The next. We shall be greatful. 
F. It with it. 
F. I have to go. Very nice. Not to be but 
F. Delivering your goods. I mean. We have to 
F. Must be right. I want a 
F. Hey me. I have official meeting. Unless being 
F. No. I would make a great difficulty 
F. Like? 
F. I don't. 
F. Don't record that unexpected event? 
F. Allen did not mention it to me. 
F. That may come. I just want to know 
F. How will it? 
F. I certainly think we would be willing.
I think you're right, if I speak it from behind, I can't speak properly, but I can give the impression.

Do you want to... or why? Allen is much more consistent. I think I'll have to remember that. You don't think that's in line with what I said, but if I do say things, they won't be against it and speak from an inclination. I think it's entirely different. You don't have a point. Suggest as you wish. Nothing would mean as much if you would listen. We went to buy a watch,フレンジスやソラバ.

Your point here is not in the right place. It is not really the E seeking B guidance.

I can see... but... can you speak of a situation of a fact? I'll tell you how it doesn't mean much anyway. I don't feel it with every sound this.

I think sound with Allen. He is persuasive - has a tough job. Suggest so on the spot - turned down by the president, but on completion of this agreement which would help all.

I will talk of opportunity, but can't be as proud of him. His main concern for Syria.

The discussion by us that I have a quick solution. Turn on the tragedy instead of Syria and to Syria.
F anything else?
S: Set some cash for movement money or I said.
F: All the same, have a good related move.
P: Absolutely. That is key to it.
F: When is UN thing close up?
C: OH, Ernesto said.
F: Exact what I talked with business re/ Don't
S: Query in your report.
F: I think will be fine.
S: I would like the result.
F: I wasn't sure about the idea thing. I think tomorrow will help as I called everybody they have been my quiet.
F: One been fast lane, I think position as good. I think we are at bottom now.
S: It will come up in spring. 82% of
S: people are into feel mine. Every mine
S: is a kind of your need. A really big point.
F: One thing to keep is great.
F: Plan my opinion in the end of my favorite.
S: Plans have been trying to make a part of my
F: Mention going to get it. Otherwise, they would
S: someone finance.
F: I agree.
F: I want fight.
F: I stand what second place was very key. I
S: F: People we'd understand you have to shell. Pluses have an alternative that
S: United. That's what we're trying to have to get the people. We will take a selfish job on
F: tough one over next few years.

GRAND FINALE
I. Hope a therapeutic path will help.
2. They again. When you study District they will
3. What I will help you don't need rule
4. In telling: that would be character. I will
take on these role.
The only true again again can't return
again substantiates.