**MEMORANDUM** 

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.6

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MR 01-38 #7; CIALLY 11/30/01

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

By del MARA Date 2/6/02

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, February 25, 1975;

10:22 - 11:10 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office
The White House

Kissinger: Simon publicly attacked the floor price.

President: I talked with him yesterday and there was no disagreement.

<u>Kissinger:</u> He uses the floor price in a technical sense. <u>The Economist</u> had an editorial praising our statesmanship.

<u>President:</u> We met yesterday. I said we have agreement on this. I will call him before I leave.

<u>Kissinger:</u> I had a good Congressional breakfast. I think I shook them-but you get a good reaction from them and then nothing happens. Cederberg asks if you will call Caughlin. What I say is, do you want to be the ones who cut off Cambodia from the arms it needs to fight? I made headway on Vietnam.

I will be asked on this Simon price. Can I say we talked and the agreed policy is to protect prices -- by whatever means?

President: By all means. And hit Cambodia hard.

[Caughlin calls]

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

SECRET - XGDS (3)
CLASSIFIED BY: HENRY A. KISSINGER

President: He says he will do his best -- I know what that means.

Kissinger: We have a chance on Vietnam, but I doubt it on Cambodia.

President: That's a helluva way to get Vietnam, by losing Cambodia.

<u>Kissinger:</u> What we are doing to ourselves -- like Portugal. I don't dare do anything.

President: I think we should.

<u>Kissinger:</u> Okay, let's vote the Portuguese program. I guess a half-hearted program is better than none.

President: Let's do it.

How about Brademas?

<u>Kissinger:</u> He is unbelievable. They are twisting and turning. He said we are urging the Turks to be tough and we are not putting pressure on them. I said "You have an embargo on them, what more can we do?" I showed him how flexible the Greeks are becoming and they were surprised. The cutoff has had the paradoxical effect of putting pressure on the Greeks.

They said "We had seven months of negotiations with aid; give us seven months of a cutoff--if it doesn't work, we will change."

President: What does Dinitz say?

<u>Kissinger:</u> He says he tried, but there is a story around that we pressured him to talk to Rosenthal. I will have to tell the press that at the leadership meeting it was decided that we should make Jewish leaders aware of the dangerous situation being created in the Middle East.

President: I think you have to do that.

<u>Kissinger:</u> I think we could get real movement on Cyprus if we could lift the embargo.

President: If we could get Pastore, it would help.

## SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

<u>Kissinger:</u> We have him privately, but he has lots of crazy Greeks. The KGB went through Victor Louis to Jackson for direct contact. He made a sharp attack on Dobrynin and said he was totally discredited. Victor Louis is an agent who acts as a journalist and they use him for floating ideas.

The KGB is fairly independent of the Foreign Minister. Now there is another report that Brezhnev gambled and lost on the trade bill, playing into the hands of Suslov and others—who are saying "I told you so."

Jackson then went to Dinitz to ask his opinion about going to the Soviet Union as Louis suggested. An unbelievable sympton of our times -- that a senior Senator would do this rather than coming to the President or Secretary of State.

<u>President:</u> Then this character Stevenson is trying to justify his action on the trade bill.

<u>Kissinger:</u> But I think the public will turn on them. I don't think the people are ready for this.

<u>President:</u> I think we have to keep it up. I think we have to keep on this back and we will get the support of the people. We are going to play the course right down the middle.

<u>Kissinger:</u> If you can get the domestic situation under control, the people will flock to you.

On the Los Angeles speech -- on Panama I would just say the treaty needs modernizing.

On Cuba -- it is a matter of the OAS vote.

On corporations in third countries, they should follow the laws of the country where they're domiciled.

<u>President:</u> But we must be firm that our policy change would come only from a change in Cuban policy.

Kissinger: We are in an intolerable situation on American corporations.

## SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

<u>President:</u> I noticed the headline on the 250 mile limit. It wasn't picked up.

Kissinger: Do you have a problem with it?

Scowcroft: The only problem is political. What will it do with the Thurmonds?

<u>President:</u> That's my concern. The people who welcome it won't help us and the ones who help, it will hurt.

<u>Kissinger</u>: We have been doing it on a case-by-case basis, and the danger is that we will fritter it away piece by piece under pressure. Let's discuss this on Thursday or Friday.

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