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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET NODIS/XGDS

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:

April, 1975

PLACE:

The Oval Office

<u>President:</u> I hope the Jews noticed the Portuguese statement on the Azores.

<u>Kissinger:</u> The thrust of the Jews now is that our pressure is making the Arabs more intransigent. They want you to put in your speech something about the reassessment.

Ribicoff says he is amazed the way the Jews have lied to him.

I think maybe you should give a speech in May on the Middle East. Or I could, if you prefer.

President: I think I should do it.

<u>Kissinger:</u> You could discuss the step-by-step and the question of the interim versus the overall. We are ready for an overall, or if the parties wish, an interim solution.

We have to add to the speech that Whitlam and the New Zealander are coming here in May.

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DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5 NSC Memo. 11/24/9? State Dept. Co. deli 33 By_Lt______NARA, Dat. 1120/09 CLASSIFIED BY Henry A. Kissinger EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF FNPCUTIVE ORDER 11652 MPTION CATEGORY 5 B 3 AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to Det.

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<u>President:</u> I would think the Aussies should be scared as hell [by Indochina].

Kissinger: I think the Indonesians will start to pull away from us.

At the NSC, I would have Colby start off, and then Weyand, Then I would lay out the options from do nothing to an all-out effort.

There is another wrinkle. My Congressional people think you have no chance for anything but the \$300 million. But you can't justify that. The only real choices are \$300 plus or the full amount now. I would go all out-now. The objection isn't to the amount but to the concept.

President: I think I must make the decision at the meeting.

Kissinger: It will leak.

[There is discussion of the alleged "secret commitments."]

With Max Fisher, he is friendly and committed to Israel. If he says they want to move, you can say they haven't put forth anything. You are in good shape. Israel has four weeks of supplies compared to five days, which they had in 1973.

We had a meeting in the Philippines where Marcos was very guarded when we gave your assurances.

<u>President:</u> Have you thought about putting in the speech the meeting with the Asians? Whatever the problems are, during the course of the coming months, I will meet with the leaders of these countries to discuss our policy in Asia.

Kissinger: It is okay to elevate the NATO ministerial to a summit?

President: Yes.

<u>Kissinger</u>: On the Baltic States, I have signed a memorandum. Technically, it is true the CSCE doesn't add much to the legal status. Practically that is not true -- that is why the Soviet Union wants it. It has numerous references to the sanctity of frontiers, P.

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President: Will that raise hell with our Baltic friends?

<u>Kissinger:</u> There is a clause about peaceful change of borders. They may not like it.

President: We need to find a way to reasure them.

<u>Kissinger:</u> I would go to Warsaw, Bucharest, and Belgrade after Helsinki. Maybe even Budapest.

President: What is the significance of Asad's attitude toward Sadat?

Kissinger: No one can believe we really weren't able to pull off a deal, so he thinks he will be left high and dry one way or another.

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