MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE: Wednesday, April 2, 1975

[Excerpts]

Kissinger: We have to restore the good name of the United States and some of our enemies.

We have to do what de Gaulle did after Algeria -- be tough as nails, and don't give ground anywhere.

We have to be tough if challenged.

Things are the worst since 1939, and then there was no U.S. behind us.

The Portuguese problem has been misdefined -- a Communist takeover, giving the Soviet Union bases, etc. That would be easy to deal with. I am afraid they are on a more moderate course which would trigger a "historic compromise" in Italy and France. We must force them out of NATO.

We must do nothing until their election [of April 25] is over.
K/Schlu
2 April 75

Professor, in his speech:

"We can't win a decent war in the

The only way is to give ground and

The only way is to challenge:

Thus, our worst main threats are

Partly, our past has been misunderstood. First

than a more moderate course which would keep

"greater countries" in Italy, etc. We must

The key men and the Nato,

Do something; think this is can.

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