## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

## CONFIDENTIAL/XGDS

## MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford

Kiichi Miyazawa, Foreign Minister of Japan Keisuke Arita, Deputy Vice Minister of Foreign

Affairs

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State and Assistant to the President for National Security

Affairs

Amb. James Hodgson, Ambassador to Japan Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Saturday, April 12, 1975

9:40 a.m.

PLACE:

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The Oval Office

[The press enters.]

<u>President:</u> We will have a press photo and then talk business. I remember meeting you when I was in Japan last Fall.

[More photos are taken.]

<u>Kissinger:</u> The only thing I resent about the Foreign Minister is he speaks English better than I.

[The press leaves.]

<u>President:</u> I am very pleased to have a chance to see you. I know you have been very busy. I have been preoccupied with my Foreign Policy speech. I was pleased to reaffirm our relationship. I am pleased with the closeness of our cooperation and at the chance to make a public reaffirmation of it.



HENRY A. KISSINGER

EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5 (b) (1, 3)

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Henry spoke to me of the possibility that the Prime Minister might be able to come the first week in August. That would be another chance for us to reaffirm our relationship.

Miyazawa: I am very pleased you could receive me at this busy time. I have had many talks with Secretary Kissinger and at the State Department. We heard your speech and read the text carefully. We have been reassured of your willingness to join with Japan in the cause of peace and your reassurance just now.

We have a message from the Emperor and Empress: They recall with great pleasure their meeting with you last November and are looking forward to their meeting with you and Mrs. Ford and the American people this Fall.

Prime Minister Miki said the first week in August may be the best time. Secretary Kissinger indicated agreement so we will go through diplomatic channels.

Ambassador Hodgson has very ably and wisely represented the United States in Japan. He is held very high in Japanese society, as was his predecessor, Mr. Ingersoll.

President: It was a thrill for me and a great opportunity to meet the Emperor and Empress. I enjoyed our opportunity to talk at the various functions. I am looking looking forward to greeting Prime Minister Miki. We didn't have much chance last Fall to talk. Early August is a good time and I am looking forward to deepening our relationship. It is important in developing further our cooperation for the peace and unity of the Pacific. The relationship between us is a good example of such a relationship's observance in the world.

Miyazawa: At the time of your visit, it was a time of instability, and Mr. Miki didn't get the kind of chance he would have liked. He looks forward to renewing contact.

<u>President:</u> I am glad to hear your views of Ambassador Hodgson. My only problem is he is too good on the golf course.



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