MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:
President Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State and Assistant to the President of National Security Affairs
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:
Thursday, May 8, 1975; 9:49 a.m.

PLACE:
The Oval Office.

Kissinger: Javits and Jackson are circulating a letter on the Hill supporting secure defensible borders; the US must give military support regardless of what Israel does because it is a bastion of democracy; and we must put pressure on the Arabs. It sounds very reasonable.

President: I don't think Chuck should sign it.

Kissinger: He won't sign, but wants to know if he should oppose it. They have Dale McGee on board. Maybe I should tell Javits if they say we haven't given enough, we will publish the data.

President: Scranton came in. He obviously had talked with the Jews and said I had obviously lost trust in Rabin.

Kissinger: They will play it 1000 ways. It is not a matter of trust, but a loss of confidence based on expectations. You will be under monumental pressures to show confidence. They will come after me -- they will work through every White House assistant until they find someone who can get to you and around me.

President: It is so unwise.
Kissinger: In another war, they will be forced back to the '67 frontiers -- unless you want to confront the Soviet Union, Europe, and the Japanese. You may have to make your speech sooner.

President: For us to go back to the step-by-step when Israel is frozen just won't work.

Kissinger: Congress won't support us in a war in the things which have to be done. If we have to inform them of every move of forces, it will scare them to death.

State and DOD have been asked to testify on the Nixon-Thieu letters.
Joints/Jackson providing letter to war supply

Sec. 3.5

Be quiet.

Guidance...

I think people should sign it.

The main thing is - I heard they have done the same on the Soviet side. Maybe I should talk to Joint if they say we cannot give information will produce a letter.

Secretary in a ceremony had talked with Mus -

told I had already told him in person.

They will play it with ease. It's not a matter of trust, but a loss of confidence based on expectations.

You will be under enormous pressure to
tell the Americans. They will come at them - they will work them very well until they find

someone who can get to you.

I am surprised.

In another way, they will be forced back to 6-7

Juniors - unless you want to resign. So,

You can - may have to make your

statement.

Can we talk back to it when I get you first

won't work.

Can't suggest we in a case in a thing which

time to have. Your hard to inform then if they

are of forces and it will come through with,

later 800 will have a lot to testify on 8-1 telephone.