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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: Ambassador Egidio Ortona, departing Ambassador from Italy
President Gerald 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: Friday, June 27, 1975
10:10-10:22 a.m.

PLACE: The White House
The Oval Office

President: It is so sad to see an old and trusted friend depart.

Kissinger: I pity his successor [Ambassador Gaja], although he is a fine man.

Ortona: He is a strong supporter of the western cause. It has been a fine experience for me. I came here in 1944-45. What I didn't say at Henry's nice party last night was that then you had \$18 billion for Europe. You don't have that now.

Kissinger: At these prices.

President: That was one of my first acts in Congress. I supported it then and still do. Now we have bitter arguments about peanuts.

Ortona: We are now reconstructed, and in a way we are more demanding and difficult to deal with. We have tough problems and without the close consultation mechanism.



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CLASSIFIED BY Henry A Kissinger
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5 B 1,3
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp to Del.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5

NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines (Suber)
By KAN, NARA, Date 6/29/99

President: You will be with private industry?

Ortona: Honeywell. I hate to be a businessman.

President: But you can come to visit.

Ortona: I go back to Italy with question marks. Our local elections were not so good. We don't know to what extent to which the middle class voted Communist. Within the Christian Democratic party, there is criticism by the left of the Secretary General.

Kissinger: The Christian Democratic loss wasn't bad. The tragedy was that all the gains went to the Communists. The losses were sustainable had they not all gone to the Communists.

President: Where did the gains come from?

Ortona: Mostly from the Democratic Socialists and some from the right.

President: The question is, is it a trend or an aberration?

Kissinger: There are two issues: is there a trend, and what do the Italian politicians think it is? And the Italian socialists are vulnerable to the Communists -- not like the SPD in Germany.

President: You know we are interested in a strong Italian government.

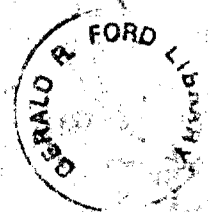
Ortona: The issue now is whether the left Christian Democrats will leave and will the Socialists join the government. It is not a happy situation. I don't think advanced elections, but watch the behavior of the Socialist party.

President: Who is the head of the Socialists?

Ortona: Nenni, but it's really Martino.

President: Do come by whenever you come back.

Ortona: Thank you. I will contact the General. Please pay my respects to Mrs. Ford. I sat next to her the night before she went to the hospital.



My Foreign Minister sent you this gift. It is one of our gifts to the bicentennial.

President: It is a beautiful gift. I thank you and the Foreign Minister. I will write him a note. Please give my best to the President and the Prime Minister.



P/J ~~Orton~~/K

27 June 75 ✓

P It is so good to see an old and trusted friend again

I pity his successor, the he is a fine man

O He is a strong supporter of a water cooler. It has been a fine experience for me. I came here in 44-45. What I didn't say at K meeting last night was that you had 18 bill for it, you didn't know that now

K as the three pieces

P That was one of my first acts in Congo. I supported it then & still do. How we have better arguments about parents.

O We are now so restricted & see a very real one more diminishing & slight level w/o. Was home tough job & w/o a clear clear mechanism

P You do w/ private industry

O Heavy well. I both to be a business man

P Best you can come to mind

O I go back to an stake w/ protein market. ~~at~~ Our local elections were not so good. We don't know extent to ~~how~~ which middle class voted most, w/in CDC, there is entirely by left of Day and.

K The CDC loss wasn't bad. The tragedy was all a gain went to a center. CDC losses were sustainable had they not all gone to to to

P When did gains emerge

O Mostly from the State & some from might



P Question is is it a trend or operation

K True answer: is there a trend or what is it?
Johns think it is, and a lot of scenarios
and ~~inches~~ - ~~books~~ - and like SP D on

~~long~~
P You know we interested in staying in the gift
I know we is whether left or right will have
a well a Socialist join a party, for now a
happy side. I don't think advanced theories, but
wrote behavior of Socialist party.

P Who Socialist had

O Annie but really Martin

P Do come by whenever you can have

O Thank you. I will contact a Gail. Please
pay my respects to Mrs. F. I don't want to
be in yet before she want to help.
Way F.M. sent you this gift, it
one of our gifts to instrumental

P It don't gift to. I thank you & F.M.
and the F.M. I will write him a note.

Please give my best to the two & a
P.M.