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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DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5
NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines (DC)
By NA, Date 12/18/98

CLASSIFIED BY
Henry A. Kissinger

EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON TFR 15 DEC 98
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.
27 June 75

It is so need to see an old and trusted friend again.

It pet my nervous the last couple of week.

He is a strong supporter of our cause.

I was very impressed with his letter. He wrote me in 1943. What I didn't forget.

Knew you that, you had it all on me. You don't have that now.

I am here for you.

I don't see our joint effort as too many. I support it though still we have a

with our agents about plants.

We can now be more realistic and a way we can end up in a state of.

Give tough job to the other one and machine

You do as the court rules.

Don't sell be a business.

Keep your concern to mind.

I go in to an embassy question now.

Our health care was not so good. We

And much to do which might

doesn't work. W/ in C.P., they is

written by L.B. of L. B.

K. The C.P. has under eight. The tragedy

are going on the limit. C.P. have

were sustainable building and all power

in Japan

I wrote.

Who did I go in Japan?

I wrote Diem. See + some few more
Question is: is there a brand or alternative.

Answer: yes, there is a brand that is ethically sourced and sustainable. Can't tell more without knowing the context.

P: You know we started in Texas. 1985 got
some land in California. 1988 sold them
1,000 trees in one year. So, to do
happy stuff, I don't think about electricity, but
with the power of electricity.

P: Be honest.

O: Honestly, it's not true.

P: Don't lie about your own data.

O: Thank you. I will correct the mistake. Please
pay my respects to the FM. I will not to
check myself before the event. We try
your FM. sent me this gift. It
came from a person of
understanding.

P: It doesn't... I didn't want to
stop you. And the FM, don't want him to
write.

Please give my best to the FM.