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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

<del>CONFIDENTIAL</del>

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

President Ford **PARTICIPANTS:** Mr. Thomas Pappas Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, July 15, 1975 5:45 p.m.

The Oval Office PLACE: The White House

Pappas: I am happy to have the opportunity to talk to you about Cyprus, Mr. President.

President: It is a very perplexing one. I have been close to AHEPA for years. The first two jobs I ever had I got from Greeks.

Pappas: I am a charter member of AHEPA.

(?) President: Alex Dunar would raise funds in each campaign for me. It was a very close personal relationship.

It is my judgment that a continuation of the embargo will result in no Cyprus solution, it will be harmful to NATO and to Karamanlis, and bad for our relationship with Turkey. They will tell us to get out vital stations out of Turkey. That will hurt us in SALT and in moving arms through the straits. There is not one good thing the embargo does.

theres, state dept. Guidelines stated is 3/10/04 Pappas: I agree with you. Let me talk about the humanitarian issue in Cyprus. That is not too hard to solve. If you could nominate two outstanding Americans to go to Greece and Turkey to get them together to cooperate on  $\Xi$  this. Give them the aid. Get started on humanitarian assistance.

I would try not to bring it to a vote. No one will be helpful wherever there is a crisis.



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<u>President:</u> If we don't bring it to a vote, how do we solve the problem? Turkey bought \$70 million of arms, that they now can't get, and they're paying storage. I think we should get the bill passed. I met with Demirel in Brussels. I asked Demirel if I lifted the embargo, would he make a serious effort on Cyprus? He promised he would. Kissinger tells me the most serious problem is the size of the territory. They still have a slight problem on the powers of the government, and movement of people, but the big thing is the territory.

<u>Pappas:</u> I think the Greeks would settle for 30 percent. But send some emissaries out. There is nothing more important to the Greek-Americans.

<u>President:</u> I think the only area we differ is on not bringing it to a vote. Under the bill I would have to report every 30 days. Demirel promised me a sincere effort. I think within 60 days it would be settled.

Pappas: Sooner, but if you could avoid a vote....

<u>President</u>: Tom, we can't avoid one. I have worked with the leaders. If we could get this compromise through, we can get something going while Congress is out and maybe negotiations on our bases on the 17th can be postponed. I met with AHEPA. What can we do?

<u>Pappas:</u> No one can do anything but you. I am close to AHEPA and Iakavos. But send someone out and delay the vote.

<u>Scowcroft:</u> We can help the refugees, but resettlement before the embargo is lifted is a false hope. The best hope for the refugees is lifting the embargo.

President: I think we have the votes.

Pappas: I have no doubt of it.

<u>President:</u> I think if we can get the bill through, we can get a quick settlement if you are right on the Greeks giving 30 percent. But if not, the Greek Government is in danger.

<u>Pappas:</u> That is right. And the alternative is very dangerous. But send some emissaries out there. And think about delaying the vote.

<u>President:</u> I think we are past that point. Congress is going on a recess and we would have to wait over a month.

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Pappas: If you win, will you make a strong statement and include Greece?

<u>President:</u> Of course. But I think we have to move and win. Will you help me get some votes?

Pappas: I will give you some help.

<u>President:</u> Tip O'Neill promised to keep quiet. The Speaker is with us. Our two problems are Brademas and Sarbanes.

<u>Pappas</u>: Brademas says a solution can be found. Sarbanes is tougher than Brademas.

<u>President:</u> I had him down here three times. You know someone I don't understand -- my good friend Gene Rossides.

Pappas: He has no following.

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