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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

- President 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: Tuesday, September 9, 1975 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

<u>President:</u> I would moderate your comments on Scoop. We want to beat him on decontrol -- that would be another kick in the teeth.

<u>Kissinger</u>: Okay. I was thinking of verging on refusal to appear, but I will just stall.

<u>President:</u> I would. Don't bait him. Say it is better for you to appear before the full committee.

<u>Kissinger</u>: We have a reply from the Soviets. Their first was belligerent. This one is more plaintive.

President: This is certainly more moderate.

Kissinger: I think we should set a date for Geneva if we can get Israel to agree. We shouldn't put Israel under pressure on Syria so soon after this. We could tell Syria the Soviets put so much pressure on we agreed to Geneva.

President: When would it be?

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<u>Kissinger</u>: The important thing is to agree. Then we could slip the date until January.

If Israel had sense it would agree to a significant move on the Golan. That would get Syria off our back for years. They need some symbolic gesture. CLASSIFIED BY HENRY A. KISSINGER

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President: Okay.

Kissinger: I didn't know the Polish and Romanian Ministers of Agriculture were coming here. Butz could have helped us there by stopping them.

<u>President:</u> Don said Butz didn't get my message so I told him to go back to him and make it clear to him. He did it.

<u>Kissinger</u>: If we could let Brezhnev go to the Politburo and say he got five million more tons because of Helsinki.

<u>President:</u> If we can get a deal on grain and freight rates, we would be in good shape.

[Discussion of freight rates and what we can get.]

<u>Kissinger</u>: I have drafted letters for you to send to the Saudis, Iran, and Venezuela, putting you on record [against an OPEC price hike].

President: Good. Can we release them?

Kissinger: Maybe next week.

Luns is coming here to lobby on Turkish aid. I would recommend a letter to Sadat. He is taking a lot of heat. Say his move opens the door to peace throughout the Middle East.

<u>President:</u> Let's revise the figures for Egyptian aid to \$700 million. No one seemed upset when \$800 was mentioned. You heard my comment to the Leaders about a budget increase in the absence of SALT.

Kissinger: I think your figures are too low.

President: Did we ever get that analysis?

<u>Scowcroft:</u> You will have it tomorrow. Besides many items that were not SALT related, he restored a production slippage.



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