MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald R. Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
and Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
Tex McCrary
John O. Marsh, Counsellor to the President
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant
to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, September 10, 1975
5:45 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House

McCrary: I brought you a report on your wife. She was sensational.

The President: You mean in New York. She had a delightful evening.

[Secretary Kissinger enters.]

Marsh: The President called John Wayne.

The President: He was optimistic and thought he would be out in a couple
of days.

McCrary: He is out now, smoking and drinking again.

Let me jump right in -- I have talked to Scowcroft and Jack about this.
I have worked with the Greeks all my life. The Greeks have been my
handle for my political work with all ethnic groups.

The President: I have a deep affection for the Greek-Americans. My
first two jobs were given to me by Greeks. No one helped me more in
my campaigns. I belong to AHEPA. But here is the problem. We have never claimed that they have mixed loyalty. What bothers me is that the end result of the embargo has been counterproductive to what they want. There has been no progress made on Cyprus and none will be made so long as there is an embargo. NATO is made weaker by all this. I don't see one thing gained from the point of view of the United States, Greece, or Cyprus. It is a total loss.

McCrary: We haven't gotten out of the end zone, that is for sure.

The President: What we want is how to solve the problem.

McCrary: As I wrote in my note to Scowcroft, who gave me much time and patience. It is like the Army-Navy game; a change at the half. There hasn't been any sympathy for an embattled Greek Government. In my judgment you haven't moved to the Greek side for the second half. Could you name a U.S. mission, headed by Mike Dunn, with General Van Fleet and some Greek leaders, to sit down with the Greek Government? It would strengthen Karamanlis' hand. There is a feeling in the Greek community that they have won, but what have they got? This mission would defuse the situation.

The President: We have held up the aid bill for the Middle East settlement and the Greek-Turkish situation. I think it is good to get as many pro-aid people on one foreign aid bill as possible. The weaker programs need to be pulled along by the stronger programs.

Kissinger: One difficulty is that the Greek Government has asked me not to put in Greek aid in the same time frame as the embargo vote because it looks like a payoff.

McCrary: When would the aid bill go in?

Kissinger: Maybe by the end of the month. As the President said, we would like to get the whole package in at once. We have a big program for Greece. We are great admirers of Karamanlis. But he needs a rapid settlement on Cyprus so it doesn't get to be a domestic issue. It is not that we are pro-Turkey. Left alone we would have had it solved by now. We had some concessions in January. Greece wouldn't accept them because they were afraid that we would use it to lift the embargo. Cyprus is soluble
on acceptable, but not good terms. This has nothing to do with our being pro-Turkish.

The President: I don’t even know any Turks, but I have many close Greek friends.

McCrary: My point is a little deeper than cosmetics — to show the White House flag in Greece.

[Secretary Kissinger leaves.]

The Jewish vote is very fickle. The group which saw you on Monday — they were awestruck. But the most violent language I have ever heard was this group, each one introduced by a rabbi, each one trying to outdo the other in damming Kissinger. Wilks said that whenever a Jew gets too far out front, Jews must worry. The feeling of the Jews about Kissinger is deep, so don’t be misled by pledges of support.

The President: Let me make some observations. I didn’t know about the meeting you mentioned. But we knew there were strong feelings. But we also felt we were doing the right thing working to get the agreement we did. It wasn’t pleasant for me — and less so for Henry — to hear the criticism. But we stuck to the course because we thought it was in the United States — and the Jews’ — best interest. They won’t turn around and love us, but when they look at what would have happened had we not gotten the agreement, they will at least understand.

McCrary: Your meeting was very good, but I am just trying to say the Jews are volatile. I would like to bring Wilks into meet you, Kissinger and Scowcroft.

If you all could come up with some sort of mission right away — they couldn’t show results, but they could ascertain the needs, visit hospitals, etc.

The President: Would this be accepted to the Greek Government?

McCrary: I would certainly check all this out.

The President: Let me think it over.

McCrary: Jack can tell me. Then I would get with Brademas, Sarbanes and let them think it is their idea.
I brought you a sign on your wife. She was unmoored.

Your mother in N.Y. She had a slight cold.

(R. writes)

March. The called John Wayne.

He was the most talkative and polite I have met in a long time.

He is not sure, but I think it's true.

I'm going right in. I have a letter to him.

It's about this. I was born in '44. Once all my life. The Turks have been my family for my political and old Eastern party.

I have a letter for the Greek. The 1st of April.

I got home by train. By one company I sailed to Adana. But I see it again. We have never changed much. Loyalty. What better one in the end result of the king who is by the end of the century. It is by the end of the century.

The king has been in the rear of the years. I now will try to draw a picture. That is another. I don't see one thing to keep from you.

May 1st. We have not gotten out of the real world that is for sure.

If we are not. We have to move a year.

As of yet, I never had such. I will send you much. Time to stay here. I will stay here.
We have already discussed the idea of a U.S. mission, should it return.

We can post that a greater emphasis on a U.S. mission, should it return,

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I don't know how to speak Turkish, but I have some
doll clothes from.
My part is a little deeper than expected. It's
there is a third flag in the

The Jewish sect is very fierce. The group with
who you can telephone they were understand.
But most violent language I have ever heard
was this group, and one introduced by a uten,
which may be a third or fourth in meaning. Its
Walker and donde. If you go too far out front,
Jews must come. The feeling of Jews about his
clothes, so don't be swayed by anything.

But the main reason I doubt I didn't know
about the manner mentioned. But the time
was getting longer, and we also felt in new
things might change quite a bit. It wasn't pleasant for me - I had to face
certain. But we think a chance because
we didn't know in US, it's almost that interest.
But they were more and this was, but when they
saw at what would have happened. But our
government agreement they paid least understood.
Mr. Carter was very good. But I justifying keep
the Jews and solve. I would get my Writers
into must you, K. and S.,
If you could how we have paid violation
might mean. They couldn't themselves - but they
Small circuit in need, need bought, Mr.
P. said: his was complete to C unit
Mr. I would certainly check all the unit
P. let me check it soon
Mr. Jack can tell me. Thank you and get off
Beckham, Sandusky + sit ten awhile at Corn
Dallas