

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald R. Ford
 King Olaf V of Norway
 Knut Frydenlund, Minister of Foreign Affairs
 Soren Christian Sommerfelt, Norwegian
 Ambassador
 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, October 10, 1975
 11:30 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
 The White House

The President: It is good to see you. You are always welcome here. We have many good Norwegians in America who have made a great contribution. You will have a good trip.

Olaf: Yes. I am going to Minnesota, Chicago, then to the West Coast and then Alaska.

The President: I understand you will go to Prudhoe [to see the Alaska Pipeline].

Olaf: Yes, weather permitting.

The President: Maybe you can spur them on.

Olaf: How far are they?

The President: I am not sure. They spend most of the winter getting ready for the summer push. It will be a year and a half.

CLASSIFIED BY Henry A. Kissinger
 EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
 SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
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 NSC MEMO, 11/14/08, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES
 BY , MARA, DATE 6/4/04
 State Review 3/11/04



Olaf: It is a massive construction job. It must be terrible over the tundra.

The President: Yes. The costs are terrible and escalating all the time. You are doing a great job in the North Sea too.

Olaf: Yes, we hope we can get it going. We don't want to have a leak into the North Sea.

The President: How deep do the rigs have to go?

Olaf: I think 30-40 fathoms. I don't recall the exact figures.

The President: We are going to be working the Outer Continental Shelf. How far off the coast are your rigs?

Olaf: Right between us and Great Britain. It takes an hour and a half by helicopter.

Kissinger: You claim it because it is shelf?

Olaf: Yes. It is basically a flat shelf. The border lines were set before the oil discovery, fortunately. The Danes claim that the line was drawn unfairly, but there is no real dispute.

The President: I know the people in Minnesota are looking forward to your visit. The Scandinavians have practically taken over Minnesota.

Olaf: Yes, and North Dakota.

The President: There are lots of Finns in Michigan's upper peninsula.

I certainly enjoyed meeting your Prime Minister at Brussels.

Olaf: Yes. He will be coming here next week. He is not joining me, but he will be travelling in the same general area, including Wisconsin. He worked here on a railroad during the German occupation. Some of his brothers are here, one son is at New York University. He was a foreman before he was 21, so he must have been capable. He wouldn't learn English for a long time!

The President: That is rugged country.



Olaf: Yes, I have been over most of it.

The President: We don't have very regular trains to the West Coast anymore. It is too easy to go by air. But if you have time, it is a delightful way to travel.

How are things coming with your negotiations on Svalbard?

Olaf: There are two questions -- the continental shelf between us and the Soviet Union and the shelf around Svalbard.

Frydenlund: On the delimitation of the Barents, we are talking with the Soviet Union. We had one meeting in Moscow and next month we meet in Oslo. The other issue is in the Law of the Sea Conference.

Kissinger: The NATO meeting next spring is in Oslo. I haven't been there since 1961. Mr. President, have you been there?

The President: Unfortunately, I have never been to Oslo. Many Americans come on cruises in the summer.

Olaf: Yes they do. Some of them rent cars but most of them stay on the ships.

The President: I am not patient enough for that. I do like one of Norway's favorite pastimes -- skiing. Of course I go slower and slower as I get older.

Sommerfelt: You should switch to cross-country.

The President: That's a lot of work. One of my sons is trying to talk me into it. The equipment is cheaper, though. The equipment for downhill skiing now is really expensive -- especially where you have to outfit four children!

You were at the UN?

Olaf: Yes. I spoke there yesterday. It was a pleasant experience.

The President: I spoke there last year.

Kissinger: Was this part of the general debate, or was it a separate speech?

Frydenlund: Separate.

The President: I thanked Senator Humphrey for getting the Sinai agreement through.

Kissinger: He is a great patriot. The Israelis have now signed the agreement.

The President: Good, because the Congress is now recessing for ten days.

Olaf: Then they come back for the State of the Union speech?

The President: No, they will be back in ten days, and they hope to adjourn by 1 December for good. It can't be too soon.

Olaf: When I see your hearings, they seem to be very difficult and laborious.

The President: I am afraid they play for sensation on TV. It has been harmful in many ways.

Kissinger: They catch us both ways on the intelligence business. We are accused of not knowing about coups -- when the local government doesn't know either. Or we are accused of knowing about it -- like Cyprus.

The President: Hindsight is great.

Kissinger: There is always one sorehead who will say he predicted something.

The President: Unfortunately the people on these committees have such a narrow view. We should prepare some of our people to take apart some of these witnesses, like Ray Cline.

Olaf: I would like to present this medal to you while we are still alone, then we can do it again for the press. [He reads the inscription.] It commemorates the landing of the ship Restauratin in 1825 with the first of many Norwegian settlers in America.

The President: Thank you very much. It is beautiful and means much to me. We have so many of your people who have contributed so much to our progress. How many passengers were on the ship?

Olaf: Fifty-two -- fifty-three really. One was born on board.

The President: You had better take it back so we can do it again for the press.

[The press enters again.]

Olaf: [Reads the citation from the Sesquicentennial Committee.]

It has a picture of one side of the Restauratin and on the other side, an immigrant.

The President: Thank you, Your Majesty.

✓ P/King Olaf/K

10 Oct 75 11:30 am

P Good to see you. You are always welcome. We have many good Norwegian and other countries greatly. You will have a good trip.

O Yes. Umanak, Chingx, West coast & then Alaska.

P I understand you will go to Handke

O Yes, as of permission

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O How far are they?

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O Yes, and N-Dakota.

P There are lots of Finns in Mich. upper Peninsula.

I certainly enjoyed my P.M. at Bussels

O Yes. He will be coming here next week. He will join me, but will be traveling in a small yard area, and etc. He would have a railroad during a vacation. Some of his brothers are here and one son is at NYU. He was a farmer before he was 21, so he must have been coyote. He wouldn't learn English for a long time.

P That is rugged country.

O Yes, I have been over most of it.

P We don't have very regular trains to W. Coast any more. It is too easy to go by air. But if you have time it is a delightful way to travel. How are things going w/ your project on Svalbard?

O There are 2 questions - what shelf but are * S O * a shelf around Svalbard Svalbard

FM The delimitation of Bussels we are talking w/ S O. ~~For~~ We had one in the west & next month in Oslo. The other issue is in LOS



Conference

R The first entry next year is in Oslo.
I haven't been there since '61. Have you ever
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O Yes they do. Some of them rent cars but
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We are accused of not knowing about corpse -
about local govt doesn't know either - or we
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Bygones.

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Ray Olive.

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while we are still alone, then we can
do it again for a pass. (Reads)

It commemorates a landing of a ship
Restoration in 1825 life a part
of many New Year rituals.

P Thank you very much. It is beautiful
& means much to me. We have so
many of your people who have contributed
so much to our prog. How many of us
a ship?

O 52-53 really, one has been on board.



