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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:	President Gerald R. Ford Dr. Yuri A. Izrael, Co-Chairman of the US-USSR Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection
	 Administrator Russell Train, Environmental Protection Agency Ambassador Anatoliy F. Dobrynin, Soviet Ambassador to the United States Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
DATE AND TIME:	Friday, October 31, 1975 12:15 p.m.
PLACE:	The Oval Office

[The press came in briefly for photos. The President and Dr. Izrael engaged in small talk about where Izrael has been in the US and what results could be expected from these bilateral meetings.]

<u>Izrael:</u> Thank you, Mr. President. We have 39 projects underway. The most important are the air and water projects. There are also many joint scientific investigations. We are making a comprehensive view of all the situation in the environment.

President: I understand you are doing work also on earthquakes.

Izrael: Yes. We have an artificial lake which has had an effect on earthquakes. I was born in Tashkent, which was destroyed by an earthquake. Prediction of an earthquake is very important.

<u>President:</u> I saw Skopje, Yugoslavia, just after an earthquake. I never imagined such destruction.

Izrael: Tashkent was completely destroyed, but it has now been rebuilt.

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<u>Dr. Brown</u>: Using the Soviet theoretical model, we have had our first prediction of an earthquake -- in California last year.

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We have been researching what are permissible loads on the biosphere. Here is a book dealing with it. The effect of nuclear affairs on the environment is important for both of us.

<u>Train</u>: Dr. Izrael is one of the leading Soviet scientists on peaceful nuclear matters.

Izrael: I believe that atomic energy is better than other forms of energy.

<u>President:</u> We keep trying to convince the American people that these things are safe. We[®]ve never had a serious problem, have we?

<u>Train</u>: Not a serious one, but the same concerns are beginning to surface in other countries.

We are doing some great work on coal, especially on desulfurization. We are getting some scrubbers from them to test, which show great promise.

Izrael: In our agreement, 26 Ministers and Agencies are involved. The EPA is the father of many agreements in other fields.

<u>President:</u> We are delighted to have you here working with Dr. Train. The American people are deeply concerned about the environment. I think the Soviet Union has the same problems and interests. This is an outgrowth of better relations between us.

<u>Izrael:</u> We have three meteorological centers in the world which exchange data -- the Soviet Union, US, Australia. We need a common-type computer in order to exchange data. There seems to be a problem with the computers.

<u>President:</u> I will have Russ look into that. It may be trapped in our bureaucracy.

Train: I will find out what it is.

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