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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford Takeshi Yasukawa, Japanese Ambassador to the United States Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, January 28, 1976 2:03 - 2:15 p.m.

The Oval Office PLACE:

President: I am sorry you are leaving.

Yasukawa: I am most appreciative that you would receive me.

The press came in for photos. There was small talk about golf, etc. The press left.]

Yasukawa: I remember accompanying His Majesty the Emperor to the Jets football game. I had to explain to him what was happening.

President: We will miss you here. Did I meet your successor in Tokyo?

Yasukawa: I think so. He is the number two man in the Foreign Ministry. 1 He was at the Emperor's dinner party.

RA. DATE President: Are you retiring?

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Yasukawa: Yes. I have reached the age, so that is what I will be doing.

President: You have been Ambassador here during a very interesting time.

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Yasukawa: Very much so. I just got a cable from Prime Minister Miki to tell you his opening statement to the Diet would strongly support the United States' relationship -- like your speech did.

<u>President</u>: I thought Rambouillet was very useful and we should hold such meetings periodically.

Yasukawa: Mike thinks the next one should be in Japan.

President: When are you leaving?

<u>Yasukawa:</u> Tomorrow. Could I just mention two things? Your appropriation for the UN University. We are disappointed it is not in your budget. We are not asking for anything for now but to keep it in mind.

<u>President</u>: Our interest is there. It was a tough decision but this is a bad year. We will remember.

<u>Yasukawa</u>: The other is the Law of the Sea bill in Congress. We heard about a Muskie Amendment just before I left.

<u>Scowcroft</u>: I hadn't heard of that. There is a Stevens Amendment and a Griffin-Cranston Amendment on conservation. The bill has passed with the Stevens Amendment but without the Griffin-Cranston Amendment.

Yasukawa: You will be in a tough position with that law. We are facing pressure to extend from three to twelve miles but we are resisting.

I just wanted to go on the record registering our serious concern over the bill.

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