THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of

State

Brent Scowcroft. Assistant to the

President

DATE AND TIME:

Thursday, January 29, 1976

9:45 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

President: [Reads telcon of Moynihan conversation with Scowcroft]

Kissinger: Someone maybe should call him from here.

President: What happened?

<u>Kissinger:</u> He sent in this cable LOU. There are thousands of copies out. He feels it was very bad it leaked. But anyone who calls fire in a crowded building... It really is a lousy cable.

President: Why should he resign?

Scowcroft: He says his usefulness is limited at the UN. The cable cites the Somali delegates by name.

Kissinger: He will resign sooner or later.

President: He told me he would stay through the conventions.

Kissinger: Have Cheney call him.

I saw Rabin for breakfast. Basically Rabin wants to stalemate, but he will make an offer to Syria and Egypt, but not Jordan. He says that [Jordan] would give him monumental problems. But that is impossible. He can't shut out the PLO and not deal with Jordan either. He siad if the US wasn't so weak we could stonewall. I said we couldn't stonewall no matter how strong we were.



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President: How do we proceed today?

<u>Kissinger</u>: I could summarize our talk, so you don't have to light into him. Then you could tell him (1) we can't be passive this year; (2) we don't have to have a solution, but we have to show activity; and (3) you will not make decisions based on electoral politics.

Bunny Lasker said things have really turned around -- many are joining in.

President: I thought the atmosphere was positive at the dinner last night.

<u>Kissinger:</u> Actors are very sensitive to public opinion. They couldn't come out with positive statements if there were doubts.

Herb Schlosser said the polls are really turning up.

President: What was the reaction about the military equipment?

Kissinger: There is some grumbling but he is happy.

Scowcroft: There is no doubt they are pleased with the list.

<u>Kissinger:</u> I would tell him you overruled most of your advisors to give him what you did.

Our optimum course is to go to the PLO. Any other year I would do it. But maybe we could get by with an offer of massive withdrawls with Syria, Egypt, and Jordan, in exchange for non-belligerency.

He doesn't want Sisco and Toon to know, but he is thinking of calling an election. That is not a bad idea. He has promised an election on the West Bank anyway.

He also said he would move some Golan settlements in exchange for non-belligerency.

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