MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Richard Cheney, Assistant to the President

DATE & TIME: Sunday, February 15, 1976
6:06 - 8:05 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

Rumsfeld argued there are two ways to approach duration of the follow-on negotiation. Either a fixed date for completion or a target date by which you hope to agree. His idea is that after October '77 we would just keep on negotiating. The Treaty would go into effect.

Note: Give the President the notes from the NSC meeting when Holloway talked about cruise missile programs.

The President: Putting in a target date is just words. I think we must decide what the real date for the interim agreement is.

Note: Take out "nuclear-armed" but fight like hell for it at Geneva.

Note: Rewrite paragraph 2(d) on the review conference for cruise missile range -- but don't cancel it because of verifiability.

The President: Phrase paragraph 4(b) as originally put, with the understanding that we would stick with our deployment rate.

Paragraph 4(c). Use the original language, with agreement that the DOD stipulations would be understood.
Note:

Reductions: As part of resolving the problems of Backfire and cruise missile, the two sides agree...

Note: The President wants a program for all cruise missiles over the next five years or so.
Dear Sir, proposal is that upon Oct 27 we would just keep an opportunity treaty armed go into effect.

Full notice NSC only when Holloway talked about missile treaty.

P. Criteria in a target date is just arm. I think we must decide whether a real date for initial agreement is.

P. Take at nuclear armed but fight like hell for it at Geneva.

Rewrite para 2 as a more

conference to repair missile range. But don’t cancel it because of

mismanagement.

P. Phrase para 4 as originally put, understanding that we would think of our own deployment.

P. Para 4c. Use original language w/

agreement that the DOD regulations would be understood.

DECLASSIFIED

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BY NARA DATE 9/27/91
At a period to be agreed upon

Restrictions
As part of rotating the pilots
of Blackfoot 7 PM, or 2 sides
per

Parents for all of them
missiles over 10 ft
50 mph or so