MEMORANDUM

## THE WHITE HOUSE

## WASHINGTON

## MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald R. Ford
Fumihiko Togo, Ambassador of Japan
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
William H. Gleysteen, Jr., Deputy Assistant
Secretary of State for Bureau of East Asian
and Pacific Affairs
Ambassador Stuart W. Rockwell, Deputy Chief
of Protocol, Department of State
DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, February 24, 1976

2:00 - 2:44 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

SUBJECT:

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E.O. 12068, 86C. 3.5

DECLABBIFIEL

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Presentation of Credentials

[The press enters. There is discussion of the President's trip to Japan, the Emperor's visit here and also the weather. The press departs.]

<u>Togo:</u> Mr. President, His Majesty has commanded me to express his greeting and his gratitude for the warm welcome and wonderful visit here.

<u>The President:</u> Please convey my very best wishes to both His Majesty and the Empress.

<u>Togo:</u> He also wanted to express his hope for the further building of good relations between our countries.

The President: Their visit was, I think, most beneficial for both countries.

<u>Togo:</u> I am a professional. For us, the United States relationship is the first priority. The Prime Minister feels that way too. We were pleased by your Hawaii speech. It is said that the United States falls down sometimes but never fails.

CLASSIFIED DIE HELLET A. HELDINGER

I very much appreciated getting to talk to Prime Minister Miki at Rambouillet.

<u>Togo:</u> At present, Prime Minister Miki is troubled by the Lockheed matter. He is sending a communication to the State Department.

<u>The President:</u> We are troubled by it too. I will look forward to his communication.

Togo: This is a very important year for you.

<u>The President:</u> This is an important day. It is important to get some indication. I am very encouraged by Florida. We are doing well there.

<u>Togo:</u> Everything is fine between the United States and Japan. I hope this disagreeable matter will soon be over.

The President: I agree our relations are excellent.

<u>Togo:</u> I am honored to be here. I was here in service 37 years ago and started here.

My wife would greatly appreciate the honor to call on Mrs. Ford. I know it is outside protocol, but since Mrs. Ford didn't get to Japan, she would like to greet her.

The President: By all means. General Scowcroft will arrange it.



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