

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~SECRET/NODIS/XGDS~~

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

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

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, March 4, 1976  
9:41 - 10:17 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

Kissinger: I wanted to discuss the Shabecoff story on my phone call to Nixon from Palm Springs. [About getting his report on his China trip.]

[Discussed the sequence of events.]

Hugh Sidey says Reagan is going all out on detente and Angola.

President: We will be ready.

Kissinger: I had breakfast with some conservatives. They said you should go out more on foreign policy. They think it is a good issue for you. Your credibility is good and you can portray the attacks as playing with the national interest. You should say the problem is not the policy but Congress messing things up.

President: This is what we decided. That you would hit Congress hard and the next day I will give a positive State of The World speech.

Kissinger: There are a number of things. Mansfield may want to make something out of Sadat's statements of secret assurances. I think we are great on the written record, but we went farther in conversation. I think we have to draw a line at conversations.

President: That is fine. I agree.

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EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
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E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5  
NSC MEMO, 11/20/00, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Review 3/12/04  
BY [Signature], NARA, DATE 6/12/04

Kissinger: Then there may be a blowup over the consultations over Egypt's C-130's. We briefed that we may do more, but the only thing before Congress now is the C-130's.

President: That is fine.

Kissinger: The U.S. -Soviet commissions -- I think we should delay.

President: I agree. I told Cheney.

Kissinger: Can we do it through me?

I think we need to crank up contingency planning on Africa.

Scowcroft: I have it underway.

Kissinger: We need to have a WSAG and an NSC. I think we may have to crack the Cubans on Rhodesia, even if it provokes race riots here -- though we could force the white regime out in Rhodesia. I think that, at least after the elections, we will have to give Cuba a bloody nose.

President: I think we should move forward on our contingency planning. These could be difficult areas.

I think Reagan may try to take us on about Cuba and Panama.

Kissinger: I don't see how he can on Cuba. On Panama I would say: It is easy to make a one-line remark on Panama; it's an issue not just with Panama but Latin America. That is why three Presidents have undertaken negotiations. Congress is fully informed and any agreement will fully protect the American interest.

P/R 4 Mar 76 9:41 ✓

R I would like discuss a Shalweff story on a Wilson phone call.

(Discussion a sequence of events)

~~John~~ Sidney says Kagan is going all out on detente and Chrysler.

P We will be ready.

R I had breakfast w/ some conservatives. They said you should go out more on F.P. They think it is a good issue for you. Your credibility is good + ~~the~~ you can portray attacks on playing w/ a weak instinct. You should say a lot is not a policy but says messing things up.

P This is what we decided. That you would last Cong hard and the next day I will give a positive SOTW speech.

R There are a number of things. Mansfield may want to make something out of Sadat's statements of cardinal assurances. I think we are getting a better record, but we want further in conversation. I think we have to draw a line at assurances.

P That is fine - I agree

R Then there may be a blowup over a mountain over E.C.-130's. We briefed that we may do more but a very thing before Cong unwise C-130's.

P That is fine.

R US-SU crisis. I think we should blow

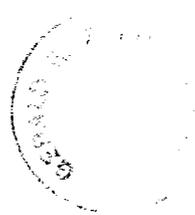
P I agree. I will blow.

R Can we do it there now?

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NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Review 3/12/04  
BY data NARA DATE 6/10/04



\* K I think we need to crank up counterintelligence planning on Opice.

S I have it under way

L We need to use A&FNSC. I think we may have to crack a Cerebus on Rhodesia, even if it provokes race riots here - then we could face a white regime out in Rhodesia. I think that, at least after a election, we will have to give Cuba a bloody nose.

P I think we should ~~also~~ move forward on our counterintelligence planning. There could be significant areas.

I think Reagan may try to take us on about Cuba + Panama

K I don't see how on Cuba. On Panama I would say Easy to make a time schedule on Panama.

It is an issue not just w/ Panama but w/ that why 3 pro. have negot.

Every fully informed & any agreement will fully protect US interests.

~~will give K a gift~~

