MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Mr. Alex DeMar
Mr. & Mrs. James Nicholas
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE & TIME: Monday - April 5, 1976
4:43 - 5:20 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

President: When did you get to town?

DeMar: Saturday. I saw the group when I was getting on the plane. We are doing good in Wisconsin.

President: Well, we have a bit of demagoguery. How are things at home?

Nicholas: Fine, Mr. President. We are looking forward to your victory in November.

President: Thank you very much. I am dropping by AHEPA tonight.

DeMar: Yes. And Mrs. Ford too. She is getting the Penelope Award.

President: I don't know when she will get in. [There is discussion of Mrs. Ford.]

Tell me about things at home.

DeMar: We are about to move into a new church complex. We will dedicate it on Palm Sunday. [There is discussion of when the President used to work for DeMar.]

Nicholas: We are confident you are doing well, Mr. President. We get good words about you and are sure you will take care of your challenger.
But if I could say one thing -- for so many years the liberals have interfered with the free enterprise system and the socialists. But with you attacking the government so, I wonder if there isn't a problem there. Most people have accepted the government as worrisome. They might think you are changing it too fast and it will result in people being attracted to someone like Humphrey.

President: I do advocate keeping the programs which are good. I am only attacking the bad ones. Social Security is a good program. Food stamps is a bad one. We just want to correct abuses. Keep the good ones and throw out the bad ones.

Nicholas: I agree. But the voter might confuse getting rid of bad programs with cutting down the government. I would not worry if it weren't for Humphrey. But he could make points attacking you or it.

President: I think it will be Hubert.

DeMarti: Carter is doing well.

President: He is smart. Don't let that toothy grin fool you. Look at how he can get the Black vote despite having had Maddox's support.

Nicholas: I don't know about him, but we are grateful for your returning the country to conservatism.

DeMarti: How about the Middle East and Cyprus?

President: There is very slow progress. The Greeks made a territorial offer -- but it was not satisfactory. We are keeping the pressure on and we are hopeful. The territory is the big issue.

DeMarti: The refugees also.

President: Yes. That is so. You know Demirel has real problems with Ecevit. And Makarios has been very unhelpful. Caramanlis is a great leader. We need to support him. He is coming here to visit.
P. When did you get to town?
D. Saturday. I was there when I went flying.

P. How was the flight?
D. It was fun. We landed good in Wisconsin.

P. Will you have a lot of overtime?
D. Yes, there are things to do.

P. How far away? We are looking forward to your visit in New York.
D. Thank you very much. I am busy. I hope to be able to visit.

P. Yes, and good luck. It's getting crowded around.

P. I don't know when she will get in.

D. Discussion of Mrs. E.

P. Well, we may have to discuss about living arrangements.

D. We are about to move into a new church.

P. We will discuss it on Sunday.

D. Discussion of where I would work for others.

P. We are improving again and things will improve. We got good news about your son. I am sure you will take care of your challenges. But if I can help you change for too many years, I think that you can find other opportunities. But I am not sure I can help do that.

P. I wonder if there isn't a problem here. Most people have accepted great challenges.

D. They want to think you can change it too fast. But I think people are attracted to someone like you.

P. It also seems that people are good. I am only attacking a bad one. Social security is a good one. Food stamps is a bad one. We just want to alert others.
D ear Miss Laurence,

I agree. But can't you just enforce getting rid of bad pop and not ring loose now? I should
not understand if you want to understand because I could take great advantage on it.

P I think it would last what

D Source is doing well

P He is sweet. Don't let that tooth pain fool you. But I'll know when she can get to Blackbird
despite having had Madden suggest.

A I don't know about him, but we can profit

D Here's what E is trying to

P There is very close pop. GLaura made the tooth

A eat it to this. We are keeping pressure on

D The tooth has bry since

P The week also.

A Yes, I think to. You know, Daniel has

D at least 13 of Edward, and William has been so

very unhelpful. Emmaline is a great leader,

A until I upset him. I am coming here

D