

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.

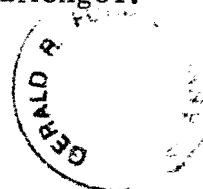
DeMar: Yes. And Mrs. Ford too. She is getting the Penelope Award.

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.

DeMar: 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.

DeMar: 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.

DeMar: 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/ Alex Deman

5 Apr 76



P When did you get to town

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

P Well, we had a lot of abuse going on.
How are things at home

M Fine, Mrs. P. We are looking forward to you visiting in Nov.

P Thank you very much. I am dropping by Abaya tonight

D Yes, and Mrs. Ford too. She getting Penelope around.

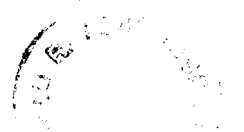
P I don't know when she will get in
(Discussion of Mrs. F.)

Tell me about things at home.

D We are about to move into a new church complex. We will dedicate it on Palm Sunday.
(Discussion of when P would work for Deman.)

M We are confident you are doing well, Mrs. P. We get good words about you & are sure you will take care of your challenges. But I'd caution one thing - for so many years a liberals have interposed w/ a free enterprise system & a socialists. But w/ you attacking a govt so I wonder if there isn't a problem here. Most people have accepted a govt as inevitable. They might think you are changing it too fast & result in people being attracted to someone like Huntington

P I do advocate buying a prog which are good. I am only attacking a bad one. Social security is a good prog. Food stamps is a bad one. We just want to correct abuse-



keep a padlock & throw out a balance

A I agree. But a center might prefer getting rid of bad prop w/ cutting down a govt. I would not worry if it was for through they but he could make points attacking you on it.

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D Center is doing well

P He is smart. Don't let that toothy grin fool you. But look at how he can get a black vote despite having had Maddox support.

A I don't know about him, but we are grateful for you returning a country to conservatism

D How about Mike Byrum?

P There is very slow prog. Greeks made a treaty offer - not satis. We are keeping a pressure on & are as hopeful. The treaty is a big issue

D The younger also.

P Yes. That's so. You know Dimoul has real probs w/ E. And Markaris has been very unhelpful. Geroulis is a great leader. We would support him. He is coming here to visit

D