MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Dimitrios Bitsios, Foreign Minister of Greece
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Menelaos Alexandrakis, Greek Ambassador
Jack Kubisch, US Ambassador to Greece

DATE & TIME: Thursday - April 15, 1976
3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

[There was small talk about the flying time to Greece, while the press was present. Then the press left.]

President: Please extend to the Prime Minister my best wishes. I enjoyed my two sessions with him and the chance to exchange views. Also President Tsatsos.

Henry and I have been working hard on this and I am pleased that things are going well. When will we sign -- in May?

Bitsios: It could be. There is no real reason it could not take place before the Prime Minister's visit.

I think we have settled far more than the bases. We have tried to see the problems in the area in a broader way. The same way relations with you have been linked with problems in the area. So it is important that our people know how the Americans see the resolution of the problems. It has been too long and we can't have things like that. It is difficult to understand why the Turks don't understand that -- also they will get a settlement they couldn't have had about two years ago.
President: How are the prospects for the next Cyprus meeting?

Bitsios: Given Turkey's goodwill, they can meet in May.

Kissinger: The Greek proposal, while not the ultimate in generosity, gets things started. It is essential now to get a Turkish proposal. We will press the Turks on it.

President: This is a very difficult situation for us. We have close and long standing ties with Greece and I do with Greek-Americans. We will do everything we can to facilitate a solution.

Bitsios: Thank you very much. We appreciate that. Then there is the Aegean. This is now the principle of the Law of the Sea. At least we have agreed to submit it to the ICI, but now we are discussing with Turkey the terms of the submission.

President: How long would that take?

Bitsios: A couple of years. Karamanlis saw Demirel in Brussels and they agreed on that. But they are going slowly.

Kissinger: I think the Turks think they will lose the case.

President: It would be tragic if the Aegean dispute degenerated into something more serious. We will do what we can with a firm hand to prevent the development of something more serious.

We are looking forward to the Prime Minister's visit in June. He will have a great welcome -- the Greek community is one of the most active and enthusiastic in the U.S.

Kissinger: And that's saying something.

Bitsios: The Greek-Americans want the closest of relations between Greece and the U.S. But they were deeply shocked by what happened in Cyprus.

President: We were all deeply disturbed and it has been very harmful to the NATO alliance.

[Discussion of Greek Parliament.]
President: What is Papandreou?

Bitsios: He calls himself a socialist but he is extreme. He is very skillful but unscrupulous.

Kissinger: He has an American wife who is very anti-American. He is like the Berkeley rioters of the 60s.

Bitsios: Fortunately we have three communist parties -- an interior party, an exterior party and a nationalist one.

Have you ever visited Greece?

President: No. I unfortunately have not. But I would really like to.

Bitsios: We hope you will have the opportunity to do so.

[Discussion of the Greek Islands]

President: We really look forward to both you and the Prime Minister coming back. I am very pleased that you and Henry have reached agreement. It is very important to keep things moving.

Kissinger: We will have a ruckus in Ankara, but it is a good agreement and it had to be done. I told the President you gave a very generous toast.

President: You can be very helpful with the Greek-Americans.

Bitsios: I have explained to many groups. I had a good talk with Brademas. And Iakovos, who said he would issue a message. To AHEPA.

President: AHEPA is a very influential group. If you can get their assistance it would be very helpful.

Bitsios: The Greek-Americans were upset by what the Turkish Foreign Minister said when he went home -- that what they had done here had nothing to do with Cyprus.

Kissinger: We'll have to let things cool in Ankara a week but then we'll get a counterproposal from the Turks.

President: Is Clerides finished?
Bitisios: He was destroyed by his Turkish counterpart who leaked to the press.
Small Life about love being in bran

P. Please find Wren my last words. I enjoyed my
2 respects with being a time to change and
also the Center

K + M have been working hard on
I believed the young will. When will we sign?

It would be. There is another reason it would not
take place before a few weeks.

I think we should settled for more than a bone
we have tried to use a person in a man in a basic
way. Some way relations of your have been
linked as /person in a war. Don't say: That
some people have been done for the resurrection
of your. It has produced long - we can't
choose things like that. Only to understand why those
about understand what - they may not let a
friend. They couldn't hear about 2 years.

P. Nor are you no for a week before any.
B. We will take a fall in May
K. The G proposed, which is no eliminate in previous
yet they started. We are expected more high
out proposal we will see a turn it

P. This is very nice for no one time else
- say this is of course. I am 6-20
also will be low this power and facilitate
a solution

B. This is very much. We appreciate that.
This is the Gyrar. This was 9/17. 7-20/6-20
also will be the less power to facilitate
a solution
W/the term of reference:
A. How long would that take
B. Over 4 years. Korean war divided
in Brussels they agreed but that they gone
already
C. I think I think they will lose case
D. It would be tragic if it was a massive supertanker
without something more serious. We will do what
we can to a firm hand to prevent collusivity.
Without more serious
We look forward to Mardi 24 June. We
will have great welcome, I think, to
move toward a treaty in U.S.
K. and think superconduct:
A. The Gans would be closest of situation but as US
but they were closely affected by what happened in
Europe
P. We were all deeply disturbed and it was very
annoyed to NATO alliance
(Discussion of Greek Parliam)
P. Worst is happen
B. Faruq, a nationalist but he is young. He is
very skilled but untrained
K. He has no European who is very anti-US. He
is the biggest活力 of Arabic

B. Fortunately we have 3 recent pieces on Turkish
party. One Turkish party on multiparties.
How are you on-welded G.?
P. We I unfortunately have not. But I would very
like to B.
D. We hope you will have a good festival
(Discussion of Greek Festival)
I am really looking forward to both your & your coming here. I was pleased upon your &
I have sealed agreement. It was important to
keep things moving.

We will have Christmas in America, but
it agreed to it would be done. I will

Your guests are very generous too.

You can be very helpful with G-Anna.

Some explanation & many groups. Hal will talk
about Bradley. If I understand what I read, the world
will have a war. To obverse.

Ahuja is a very inflated group, if you can get
their assistance it will be helpful.

The G-Anna was raised by what I am told when
she went there — that what they had done had led
to this at least.

If the state is to be destroyed, and in America and
Britain will yet a counterpoint score?

Is Charles finished?

He was defeated by his. I am not sure who
leader the future.