MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Metropolitan Philip Saliba, Chairman, Standing
Conference of American Middle Eastern Christian
and Moslem Leaders
Imam Mohammad Jawad Chirri, Director,
Islamic Center of Detroit (Vice Chairman)
Bishop Francis M. Zayek, General Secretary
Archbishop Joseph Tawil, Treasurer
Dr. Muhammad Abdul-Rauf, Director, The Islamic
Center, Washington, D. C.
Very Rev. Anthony Gabriel, Archbishop of
St. George’s Church (Orthodox), Washington, D. C.
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
William J. Baroody, Jr., Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

DATE & TIME: Thursday - April 15, 1976
2:30 - 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: The Cabinet Room

President: I am delighted to welcome you here. I want to say a few words
and I would be interested in your own comments.

I am sure you know how hard we have worked to resolve the problem in
Lebanon. As you know, we sent Dean Brown there and we think he has
been helpful in pushing the ceasefire and the work toward a political
settlement. As you know, it won’t be easy. We have also been helping
in relief and rehabilitation activities and we will help as best we can on
immigration matters.

Saliba: I want to thank you for taking the time to see us. We pledge to
you our undivided support in your campaign. We are impressed because
you are President but mostly because of your honesty and sincerity. We
hope you will govern for many years.
It is appropriate that we meet during Holy Week to discuss the agony in Lebanon. We appreciate your sending Dean Brown, but the only one who can save Lebanon is you. We really believe that. We do not believe a military solution is possible. We support President Asad's effort. A limited intervention like now may be okay, but not a military solution. We think the political principles of February may work and through these efforts a new Lebanon may be born.

President: We think a political solution but not a military solution is mandatory. We oppose intervention whether it's by Syria or Israel. The political steps are under way and we hope they will continue. Once the new government is able to take over, the outside forces must go. With all the factions and all the outside forces, it is very difficult to sort it through.

Zayek: The most important thing is to stop the bloodshed. Over 200,000 people have died. The root of the problem is the Palestinians. By themselves, the Lebanese would solve their own problems.

Chirri: We want to thank you. I am really more impressed seeing you face to face. Your popularity is growing daily because of your honesty. The Syrian troop presence now belies the argument that the dispute is between Christians and Moslems because Syria is aiding the Christians. What we need now is the reintegration of Lebanon. I hope we are near the end of the tragedy but now we need to rebuild. None can help more than you in that. God has given you great power. Thank God he has given you the wisdom to do this great job. In 1956 there was an Israeli invasion and Eisenhower was great in stopping it. This problem is the thorniest problem a President ever faced and your solution of it will result in your election by a landslide.

President: We are doing everything we possibly can. We want Lebanon to succeed, not only for its own sake but because of the danger of a wider conflict.

Tawil: We are worried about the numbers of refugees. We don't know what will happen. We have to get to the root of the real problem which is that of the Palestinians. Right now we are working for a political solution, but in the long term only solving the Palestinian problem will do it.
Chirri: We hear that Israel can't do anything with the PLO until it is recognized. But how can the PLO do that until Israel recognizes the Palestinians or so?

Rauf: I endorse what the others have said and pray for your reelection and your success here.

Gabriel: We are counting on you Mr. President. God bless you.
Delegated to automobile your ideas, writing a few words on hold the word in your own
connected.

I was your best-laid plans we have embroiled in something else. As you knew we sent from this we think it is both helpful in getting a piece of cash toward a settlement.

As you know, it can't be easy. We have also been helping in relief of what activities we will help our best we can in your immigration

S, may, want to thank you for taking time to see me. I pledge you our undying support in your campaign. We are impressed with just our P's and Q's that mostly because your minority's sincerity. We hope you will

It is apparent that we must bring Holy Week to Kansas City in Kansas. We oppose your minority's Brown, but only and who can some minority is so

rally believe that we, if not bring a real solution is possible. We support our effort. A Jim Crow situation like this now in

Kendall's and not a mild situation. We think a political fight may work and these two efforts can work, help.

I think a political fight is mandatory. We oppose integration by Kansas + I. Texas while they can work in our
deficiency with someone. Once a year.
Jordan said to Marla, "Don't you think it's important that we understand each other?"

After Jordan's explanation, Marla asked, "But how can I help you understand me?"

Jordan replied, "I've been reflecting on the past few months and I realize that I've been putting too much pressure on you."

Marla responded, "I appreciate you being honest with me.

Jordan continued, "I've been trying to do things on my own and I think that's been affecting our relationship.

Marla asked, "What can I do to help you?"

Jordan replied, "Just being there for me is enough. I really need someone to listen and understand my feelings."

Marla said, "I'll do everything I can to support you.

Jordan added, "I'm sorry for not communicating my needs before."

Marla replied, "We'll get through this together."

Jordan concluded, "Thank you for your support. I really appreciate it."
Bob said will she.

Chris: We hear that I can't change anything with my TV.

I agree, not how can this be fixed until I try Ember.js.

Berty: I work on what others have said.

So far, your selection is good, now remember your mission.

Activists will come to your aid.

P.S. Send thanks to you.