MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Gyula Szeker, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary
Elliot Richardson, Secretary of Commerce
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
Amb. Ferenc Esztergalyos, Hungarian Ambassador

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, May 4, 1976
11:58-12:15 p.m.
PLACE: The Oval Office

President: I am very pleased you were able to accept Secretary Morton's
invitation to visit. Is this your first visit to this country?

Szeker: Yes, it is.

President: How long will you be here?

Szeker: One week. We want to visit New York and Chicago. My heart
is in industry, so I hope to see some of your industrial plants.

President: You will see much industry if you go to the Detroit area.

Szeker: This matter is connected with the fact that we would like to
advance in the area of industrial cooperation. I think probably we can't
be satisfied with the present level. We are a small country but our
share of trade with the US is only 1%. Before the war it used to be 5%.
We are working toward an increase.

President: I know the trade has been small, even though there has been
some increase.

Szeker: We have started on this road. We cooperate on tractor production
with Steiger and others. Agricultural cooperation is doing well. Secretary
Butz visited Hungary last fall. There are a large number of possibilities
here.

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AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to det.
We feel also on the level of state relations and others, we should raise relations to a higher level.

I would like to raise two other points, if I may: We are aware of your great efforts to provide MFN. We would like very much to have it prevail.

President: We were very disappointed with the legislation which passed in 1974. We will have to get the legislation changed, but I don't think Congress will be in the mind to do it in 1976.

One point I would like to make -- I would hope we could work out broader cooperation in the area of scientific and cultural affairs between us.

Szeker: We very much hope that if not in '76, then in '77 the modification of the Act will take place.

President: We will be doing our best to change the law so we can expand cooperation with countries like Hungary.

Szeker: One final problem. Hungary has a 1000-year history. The Hungarian people are sensitively affected by the fact that the Hungarian Crown is in the United States. The Hungarian people have suffered much in many wars. Almost all our national treasures have been destroyed. We are on the path of marching armies and we have almost no relics of the 11th and 12th centuries. We have little earlier than the 15th and 16th centuries. The return of the Crown jewels would provoke a very positive response in the Hungarian people and I would ask you to find a way to get the Crown back to the people.

President: We understand your concern. We will look at the situation and see what can be done. I am not in a position to say yes at this time. We understand how important this is to your cultural heritage. I will look at the situation and communicate through the proper channels.

You are meeting with Secretaries Simon and Richardson today and you have met Secretary Butz already. They are very able men and we hope through them we can expand this relationship.

Szeker: Thank you very much.
P. I very pleased you were able to accept

your invitation to visit this your interest

S. Yes, it is.

P. Sounds like you are free.

S. Can work. We want to visit W. of Chicago.

My heart is in industry. I hope the

parking from industrial plants

P. You will see much variety if you
go to the distant areas.

S. This matter is connected with we

would like to show some areas of

indeed. I admire greatly we

may be so far as / present level. We

are a recent country but one

in itself / 3 1/2 if only 1/3. But we

are used to be 5 1/2 when we working

towards our income

P. A few a little too small, even

the time has been worse.

S. We have started near this weak. We keep

on track. I will send you a letter. Can

we do it well. But we will keep

from there are a large number of

time.

The people in a long of habits can

we should agree relations are short.

Fare worse. We are aware of

your great efforts to provide. More

will have many ways to show it yourself.

P. Go away many things, as we will
Friday 24. We will have a very
big change, but I don't think any will
be in a mood to debate it 26.

P Our point 20 per cent more-
I would suppose could work out for
us, in a case of scientific

S contumaciousness.

S We will have hope that if we
in 20 conciliates, I don't think any will

P We will be going down best of things
I have to the more forward step of做成

the Hungarian

S Our final problem. Hungary has-
100,000 are leaving. The Hungarian
people, as stated by a fact - Hungarian
army is now US. The Hungarian
people have appealed much in many
ways. Almost all our soil is
bombed and destroyed. We are now
half of marching armies 1 1/2 hours almost
in a relief of 10 to 15 on East - until
another than 10 to 15. I wish if

S we could have some way to get a comman-
down to 1 person.

P I have understood some time, we
will have a sit and see what can
be done. Just in a position to any
one at this time. We understand
that any such this is to given

mental training. I will listen.
sit & communicate with them & pray

They are not like Simon & Peter.
They are not like John & James,
but more than them.
So can I expand this relationship.

Jared gets very much.