MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense
Richard B. Cheney, Assistant to the President
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE & TIME: Wednesday - July 14, 1976
9:50 - 10:34 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

President: We were talking about the Olympic situation. We decided just to sit and wait until the US Olympic Committee meets. That Trudeau is being a real bastard.

Kissinger: Hasn't the Committee met?

President: The IOC [International Olympic Committee] has offered a compromise. If Taiwan turns it down, I think the US Olympic Committee will not withdraw from the games. It is an outrage, but that's the way it is.

Is there anything this morning?

Kissinger: Not a major issue. Hugh Scott is running loose in China. Now the danger is it will leak and get out that the problem is much worse than we thought and the PRC is determined to liberate Taiwan by force. It isn't too bad in substance with the PRC, but there are possible domestic problems -- from Carter saying we screwed it up.

Cheney: Or the crazies before or during the Convention.

President: We better get to Scott as quickly as possible. Can we have Gates tell Scott (and Barnett) to say nothing until he talks to the President?
Rumsfeld: On Lebanon. The ships are where they were. My strong view is that we should not use a military evacuation again. We will look silly, with people saying they would have driven but it was hot and dusty, etc.

Kissinger: We can ask the Embassy what are the feasible ways. The simplest is over the beach.

President: What instructions did we give the Embassy?

Kissinger: We told him [Amb. Seelye] to get the Embassy down to 10-15 and we will give him detailed instructions then.

Rumsfeld: I think he should explore all the possible methods for getting out.

President: It makes me mad that these Americans didn't leave when we asked them and now they want out.

Kissinger: They haven't asked out.

Scowcroft: But they will leave if the Embassy closes.

[There is much discussion of methods, other considerations, etc.]
We were talking about a possible set. We should get it set up well before the USOC meeting. That Thursday is going to be a full calendar. 

Have I seen you recently?

The IEC has offered a compromise. If Taiwan turns it down, I think the USOC will not.

We haven't seen you yet.

We have a contingency, but there is no...

Anything this morning.

We have a major issue. Scott is running behind in China. I warned him not to write a famous letter. What is dearer is that it will look great out there.

I think it is determined to extract by force. It is the end in economic terms, but there are factors that are from East, saying we cannot live.

China can't even dream of changing a situation.

We can't have China tell Switzerland to say anything. We have talked to him.

It is important. They are in the great place. They are the only one. If people say they would have known but it was too cheap, etc.

We can ask the IEC, what are the frequencies.

The first is it isn't even a beach.

What initiative did we give to them?

We told them to get a frequency down to 100.

We will give them another extension.

I think the IEC should explore all the possible methods.
for getting out,
P. It makes me mad that they ans didn't learn
when we asked them to show they won't.
K. They haven't kept it out.
S. But they will leave if the Emb. class.
(Much discussion of methods, acts with
consideration, etc.)