MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: 
- President Gerald R. Ford
- Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
- Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense
- Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: 
Thursday, July 29, 1976
10:00 - 10:39 a.m.

PLACE: 
The Oval Office
The White House

Kissinger: [Discussion of announcement on Australian beef.]

Rumsfeld: The Sismik [Turkish seismological ship in the Aegean] has the potential for a blowup. If it does, I hope we have a record of trying to negotiate with the parties.

Kissinger: We have written at least ten cables to the parties. I don't know whether we have done it through NATO. If not, we will.

Rumsfeld: The other thing is whether the Sixth Fleet should interpose itself between the two.

Kissinger: What orders would you give? You would be helping either one or the other.

Scowcroft: You have gone on the public record as opposing military action.

Rumsfeld: Maybe I should get U.S. ships out of the area.

Kissinger: But even that would leak and the reasons for it.

The President: Abourezk mentioned to me his idea of a hospital ship going into Beirut. He said he had had no answer.

CLASSIFIED BY Brent Scowcroft
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5(b) (1, 3)
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to det.
[Discussion of why it wouldn't work.]

Scowcroft: I will make sure he gets an answer.

Kissinger: John Norton Moore is making public blasts at you. He says we have ignored the Law of the Sea negotiation.

[Described the Moore/Learson problem, etc.]

[Described the deep seabed issue -- setting aside mining tracts, the problem of depressing commodity prices.]

There are important security interests in the economic zone: scientific research -- as a cover for defense matters like SOS US.

The thing to remember is we can't just bull our way through on this. We have to balance the various interests and the 150 nations.

[Discussion of Learson's lack of competence.]
R (Discussion of Jameson on Australian

R The Russian have potential from Fidel
If it does, we should also be ready to
R I have written at least 10 letters to
R I don't have written on more than 1000
R We will
R The new thing is whether it is PST turned
R What idea would you give? You could be
R You have to gain public support and support

R Maybe 8 should get its involvement once
R And now that would lead to
R Then
R Apparently mentioned to me his idea
R He has been doing well, said he had
R (Discussion of party it wouldn't work)
R I'll make some hope to an
R John be close to
R Jim's writing became getting public
R Thugs at it
R (Described Jameson - Searle Reason put it)
R (Description deep societal issues - solution with
R Working together and displacing density
R (Note

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AUTHORITY
BY
NLF, DATE 7/8/72
There are important security interests, e.g.,
ongoing scientific research (on e.g., fusion
alumina, molybdenum, etc.).

The thing to remember is we can't just
build one way, then on this, we have to
balance a number of interests e.g.,
(division of leadership, lack of competence)