MEMORANDUM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Louis deGuiringaud, Minister of Foreign Affairs of France
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Amb. Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet, Ambassador of France

DATE AND TIME: Friday, October 1, 1976
10:35 - 11:25 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

(The press came in to take photos. Small talk about press photos, campaigning, etc. The press left.)

President: I was in Hamburg in 1960 when they had an election. It was interesting to see their procedures.

DeGuiringaud: It is much different.

President: Not really, but the one poll was in the back of a beer hall.

Congratulations on your appointment. Please give my regards to the President. I very much treasure my relations with him. I think his state visit here did much to reaffirm the traditional and close relations between us.

DeGuiringaud: Thank you. I am conscious of the importance the President has put on me in appointing me his representative. The President has spoken to me of his visit and he thinks very warmly of you and prizes his relationship. I saw you at a distance on the 4th of July ship celebration.

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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, DEC. 5

CLASSIFIED BY: Henry A. Kissinger
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 13526
EXEMPTION CATEGORY: 2\(B\) (1.2)

AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Infallible
President: I think our relations have constantly improved since I came into office and I see nothing which will change that.

DeGuiringaud: I agree completely Mr. President. I have already established an excellent working relationship with Secretary Kissinger.

Kissinger: I took the liberty of telling the President of our discussion of Africa and my request that Giscard weigh in with the Francophone leaders to support the accord. We have worked closely with the French on this and there is no one with whom our views are more parallel.

President: You can tell Giscard that this initiative is not a partisan matter in this country. It has received almost unanimous support here and we will pursue it. It is a high risk affair, but it is the right thing to do.

Kissinger: The alternative is inevitable radicalization of Africa.

DeGuiringaud: Houphouet-Boigny has great influence with Kaunda. I will especially get to him.

Kissinger: That is great, Kaunda is coming under pressure from Nyerere. Strengthening him would be most helpful.

DeGuiringaud: My consultations with my former colleagues at the UN indicate we cannot postpone the debate on Namibia. I understand there will be pressure for sanctions next week.

Kissinger: What would you do?

DeGuiringaud: We would veto sanctions under Chapter VII.

Kissinger: We would have to veto, and further, it’s senseless. The outcome of our arrangements is inevitable and it’s the only way really to get it. Fighting will take them 10 years anyway. Some of these African leaders have to prove to their people they are fighters. I think we have to sit on them. I would veto and sit back until they came to their senses.

DeGuiringaud: We will try to help. We will not try to influence you. You have taken the responsibility and you should have the freedom you need.
Kissinger: I am against giving concessions while the debate is going on. It will just whet their appetite for further concessions. We have gotten them 300% more than they asked for in June.

President: We have already gone further than many wanted us to. We will not be pushed around. They shouldn't think they can run over us with extreme demands.

Kissinger: If they push it for a vote, I propose we stop everything and wait for them to see they can't win over us. Then in January, after the UN session, we can move.

DeGuiringaud: Another subject. Ismail Fahmy made a quick trip to Paris and is meeting with President Giscard. As soon as I have a report, I will tell Secretary Kissinger.

President: Is it Lebanon?

DeGuiringaud: I don't know, but Sadat asked for it just after the Syrian offensive started.

President: Could it be a request for French troops?

DeGuiringaud: I wouldn't speculate. I personally am not anxious for French troops to go in there, and I don't think the President is.

We don't have great influence in that area, but we are doing what we can and I think our objectives coincide with yours.

President: I think the President made a very forceful speech, and I applaud him for it.

DeGuiringaud: I am resentful, because he did it the same day as I spoke to the UN. (Laughter)

Kissinger: President's have a way of doing that.

President: Was it well received?

DeGuiringaud: I think so. The President makes a very good impression on television.
Kissinger: I told Mr. deGuiringaud about our non-proliferation policy. He will discuss it and comment back. He mentioned the desirability.

DeGuiringaud: We will study it and my impression is we will find it compatible. We have established an export policy council to review and control this.

I would like to make one point. We would like it to appear that our policy in this area is independent even though it is coordinated with you. It would be impossible for President Giscard to appear to accept a line already set out by the United States. Otherwise it will paralyze us. So if you are going to make a statement, we would like to know beforehand so we could issue something beforehand.

Kissinger: How much time do you need?

DeGuiringaud: Ten to twelve days. We are going to Iran and could do it after that. We will not sign any commitments with them on reprocessing. We will tell them that we are reviewing policy. Maybe we will sign for two reactors, but not anything on reprocessing. We will assure them we will reprocess in France the fuel from the plants we give them.

President: Our constraints are doing it far enough ahead of the elections to be of benefit.

DeGuiringaud: I think we could do it by the 13th. That would give you over two weeks.

President: Henry, you get the letter to Giscard.

Kissinger: I think if we can work it out with France, we can have an agreement by February, and if we do it together, the Germans cannot resist us. We will get you the letter -- if you could do something by the 13th, maybe the President could wait until the 16th, then he will make his statement and it will be seen as a cooperative effort, as opposed to Carter wanting to go unilateral -- and against our allies.
Dear Mr. 

I was at a meeting about press photo-magnifying etc.

Please send me information about this. I am looking for something similar.

I was in Japan in 1960 when they had an election. It was exciting. I did their photo-magnifying.

I don't think so.

I normally don't write in such a rush. You will have to wait.

Congratulations on your new job. Please give my regards to K. I very much appreciate your help. I think he will need time to adjust to the task and the relationship.

Thank you. I remember my stay there on an application form. The Prime Minister's son. The visit and the meeting with the Prime Minister were very interesting. I hope you enjoyed your stay in Japan.

Please e-mail me when there are any changes in the relationship. I am looking forward to your next visit.

I think some relations have recently improved since I came to office and the writing which will always end

It's a lot better than it was. I have already drawn some plans, and you will hear more about it in the future.

When I took the job, I was afraid I would be a burden to the government. I am not a burden, but a support. I have worked hard for this position. I was not as much as when one uses the

You can tell General that the situation is not as unsatisfactory as in the past. It has been much more support.
don’t see will justify it. It is a high risk affair, but it is right thing to do.

5. The Alligator is in need of understanding.

6. Though I find this great influence in Kamele.

7. I think we are going to like it.

8. That great Kamele is going to make progress for Kenya. Strengthening it would be most helpful.

9. We have consultations with many former colleagues at UN. We must make joint effort in order to strengthen it. I understand that it would be necessary for it to work.

K. What would you ask?

L. We would like to know what is going on.

M. We would like to know more about it, it is interesting. The members of our arrangement is incredibly easy to get along with. They are very keen on the issue.

N. Some of these Africans think that we are trying to exploit their people through fights. I think we have to sort it out. I would like to sort it out with them. I can manage to sort it out with them.

O. We will try to help. We will try to understand you. Your views and ideas. You shall have freedom you need.

P. I am against giving concessions while working is going on. It will just what their appetite for further concessions. We then put them in a position to take make more than they could for in peace.

Q. We have already gone further than many wanted to. We will not be pushed.
Another subject. Fabric needs a positive thing to make us want to buy. As soon as I have a report, I'll tell.

P & I talked.

Sight

I don't know, but it was rather interesting.

I should have asked for Fabrics.

I wouldn't recommend. I personally am not prepared for Fabrics, & you think this is what I mean.

We don't have great influence in that area, but we can try to see what we can do.

I thought it would be ideal for Fabrics, & you agreed to it.

I'm not sure, because we didn't.

I thought it would be ideal.

W. It will.

I think it makes a very good impression on TV.

I told G. of our worse problem, & he said it would be ideal. He mentioned it.

We will study it. It is very important as we are likely to make it, or at least to recommend it to someone.
It would help if made 1 point. We would like to appear to support any policy in the area is 
weight from the U.S. as we want it. It would help if we could agree to keep 
discussions already set aside by the U.S. or Chinese 
that will prejudice us. So if you agree to 
consider the statement, we would try to know 
beforehand so we could avoid anything 
unpleasant.

How much time do you need?

6. 10-12 days, but I would like to 
see the initial approval. We would 
not sign any contract 
with or represent -- will kill them with an 
excessively geology. We can sign for 
relating, but not anything exceeding. We 
will assume them as we will agree in France 
and then 
from this now. 

P. Can everybody agree, and do it for some ahead 
for the times to be of benefit.

G. I think we would do it by a 1 3/4 that would 
give you even 2 weeks.

P. Fine. You get a letter to G.

K. I think if we can work it out re, we can 
draw an agreement by Feb 1 or Feb 2 together.

We will get you a letter if you need by 

P. The 13th. Mr. O. will come to 

K. Then he will make his statement 
and it will be seen as a cooperative effort 
so opposed to Carter wanting to send 
out in mid-Feb.