File scanned from the National Security Adviser's Memoranda of Conversation Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET / SENSITIVE / XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Monday, October 11, 1976 10:08 - 10:35 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

The President: Are you going to resign because your President let you down?

Kissinger: Don't even think of what happened. One little glitch.

The President: I thought I did well except for that one slip.

Kissinger: You have confirmed in that debate the country's need for you and the disaster that Carter would be.

The one thing you didn't get a chance to do is conceptualize. Almost all the newsmen feel the same way.

What Carter said makes you really frightened. I really cracked the press group on it Friday night.

The President: Teeter says the first reports after the debate put us 14 percent ahead. It was after two days of press play on Eastern Europe that it turned around.

Kissinger: For the future, I think what you should do is conceptualize.

SECRET/SENSITIVE/XGDS

DECLASOFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5 State & view 3/13/04 MO. 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. QUIDELINES NARA DATE 71.30/04

BRENT SCOWCROFT

CLASSIFIED BY EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5 (b) (1, 3) AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to det.

SEGRET/SENSITIVE/XGDS

<u>The President</u>: I wanted to show up his defense policy and the "morality" argument.

<u>Kissinger:</u> I would say on the last point you're playing his game. I would hit him hard. Saying he is denigrating America with his talk. It can still be done. I don't know anyone who likes Carter.

<u>The President:</u> I will get some Eastern European ethnics in to say I made a mistake but they know what I stand for.

<u>Kissinger</u>: I agree, and say they shouldn't let Carter use it to demagogue and make cheap shots.

The President: How about Yigal Allon?

<u>Kissinger</u>: I would just go through the motions. The only issue is the AMOCO drilling. But I would stay out of it. We don't need any news for the next three weeks.

The President: How about the arms?

Kissinger: [Described what happened.]

Scowcroft: It was all announced from Jerusalem.

<u>Kissinger</u>: I think, whatever your feelings, you have an obligation to fight hard. I think you should hit hard and conceptualize -- especially in the last debate. I was at an "entertainment crowd" party where <u>all</u> of them would be Democratic, and they all despise Carter.

The President: How about Lebanon, and Egypt and Libya?

Kissinger: [Described briefly.]

On the Philippine base negotiations. I had a good meeting with Romulo. But Lynn wants us to start at \$50 million and inch up to \$100 million.

The President: I signed off the high amount.

<u>Kissinger</u>: I know, but if you could reaffirm it with the NSC. And also arms for Zaire. We really need to get something going there.

SECRET/SENSITIVE/XGDS

SEGRET/SENSITIVE/XGDS

The President: How about Thursday?

Scowcroft: I will set it up.

Kissinger: I was going to speak in Tennessee.

The President: We won't win in Tennessee. It would be wasted.

Kissinger: I won't do it then.

The President: Ohio would be great. Or Connecticut.

Kissinger: I could do San Diego.

The President: Great.

Kissinger: I don't want to do too much.

SEGRET/SENSITIVE/XGDS

P/K 110776 Fare egen gung & weiger laund gam P let gon domin K Diriten think of the what hoppmel. Our little glithe the did well except for that one ships K The out they you didn't get a chance to do is conceptante, a about ella more palarente what Curter said makes your sendly frightined. I really crached a press group on it Friday anght P Tester sampe 12 reports often debote put its 14% alread - It was often 2 dap of preso pluy on E. Een that it anonly KEn- Pritice, Ithick water hat you shuld doet encytrolize. P Immental to show my his def poling + a morahity R & woord sug our - last print your playing his gunne. I would bit him hand, Saying he is designating anerica withis falk. I team still be done. I don't have anyone who lits Contr P I will get some E. E und. ethnis in to say I made mostable but they have what I stoned for . K dagsee and any They shouldn't let Contra we it to demayoques were Cheap shorts. P Honrobout allow E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5 NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State R.V. and 3/13/24 74_______ NARA, DATE ______ 04

Cherry - Tel Cumings - Till him about anno. - NSC Flowers,

K I would joint go them - motions. The subj issurvice anoro dilling. But I muld stry and of it. We drit mild on news for next 3 who. How shout - arms ! (Deciribed arthurt huggered) S (ammed from perisolan) K I think whatim your peeting your home on olohyation to fryth hand. I think your should hit hand a conceptionize - espine clust detotto. I was at a "desterturiant erand party when all would be dermatic othing all Sizipe Contro P Ham about hebourn, E/hebyce. K (Deputed hurfey) Phil. base next. I had good into w/Ronald. But by m wouts us to start at so wind a much up the wo P & Frynd off a bright ant. K I have but if you could reaffin it are NSS, + also arms for Zaine. We with -well & get southing juing these P Hon and Thurs 8 2 mill set it up. K duras gang to speak in Tenn. P lere went min miTim, It weisted K I smart diet the Opis would be quet. Oue Com.

H Janit do Sun Diejo P Gast K J duit ment 40 do too much

.