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## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

## <del>-SECRET/</del>NODIS/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:

Tuesday, November 16, 1976

10:36 - 11:18 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

Kissinger: [Discussion of Carter press conference.] He wants to pocket everything you have done. Carter has proposed a freeze on nuclear weapons. That would freeze us at 2150 and them at 2650. We would have probably to give up Trident, the B-1, and cruise missiles.

It's the same in Europe. We'll have Haig over. We must move forward and strengthen our forces against a surprise attack. More discussion

President: What about Harold Lever?

Kissinger: I will give you the political argument. I don't think you should carry the can on this one. I would not weaken now. Tell Lever you will think about it and then write Callaghan to negotiate with the IMF. If that fails, you may have to tell Burns to roll over the debt for a couple of months. I don't think you should have this on your hands -- possibly the Ifall of a government under very adverse circumstances.

Scowcroft: Simon was actually quite mild with Lever.

Kissinger: I asked him to be. If we turn down the British, it should not be to Lever -- he has a monumental ego and we don't want him going back saying he was kicked in the teeth.

Callaghan calls]

CLASSIFIED BY HENRY A. KISSINGER EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5 (b) (1, 3) AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to det. [The President said he would be sympathetic -- he'll listen to Lever and write Callaghan a note.]

President: He said Healey was meeting with the IMF people today.

<u>Kissinger</u>: I don't know if what Burns and Simon want is doable politically. Maybe it's necessary, but I don't see why you should cram it down their throats.

President: Let me ask about the South Korean and Park Chung Hee thing. Won't it blow big?

<u>Kissinger</u>: It involves the Democrats. It won't blow under a Democratic Attorney General.

[Discussion of personal finances, President being active in the party, etc.]

Kissinger: The Israelis are bitching about our UN action. We had to do it.

President: I am completely in favor. We have to do what's right.



P/K 16 10:36-11:18 Carter has graped a fuze on mes.
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E.O. 12968, SEC. 2.5

NSC MEMO, 11/2408, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Rev. com 3/0/04

BY 1/4 NARA DATE 7/32/04

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