

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Nixon
Zalman Shazar, President of Israel
Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Ambassador of Israel
Richard T. Kennedy, NSC Staff

DATE AND TIME: Friday, January 5, 1973
2:00 - 2:15 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

Shazar: I am honored by this invitation. I am touched by your understanding of what Mr. Truman meant for us. It was a very difficult 36 hours.

I remember our conversation in March '71. I remember you said that as long as you are in office, American aid for Israel will not dry up. I took it as a great belief and told my people. I express my appreciation.

Your reelection was greeted with great joy and satisfaction in Israel. We appreciate the attitude you express toward Soviet Russia. Despite the burdens for Israel, we look forward with great hope and joy to your new Administration.

Also for what you have done for Soviet Russian Jews, we express great appreciation. We know very well that terrorism is a great obstacle on the way to the peace you desire. Violence against us could be combat with a common attack. I express my appreciation for your attitude on those problems.

The problem is how to achieve peace with our neighbors. To some, a united Jerusalem under Israel is an obstacle I know. I have been in Jerusalem for 60 years. I know the problems. For all parts of Jerusalem. A united Jerusalem is coming to be a pattern of relations. This is why it is best for all parts of Jerusalem.

CLASSIFIED BY _____
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY _____
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON _____

~~SECRET~~/NODIS/XGDS

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5
NSC MEMO, 11/24/88, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Review 3/6/04
BY MM, NARA, DATE 3/30/04



Rabin: I was born there. I know.

Shazar: I have been there since 1911. The situation now is much better than it was before, for all relations between all the parts.

I would like you to know our real goal is to achieve peace with our neighbors. We need U.S. help. The US should work continuously to bring both Jews and Arabs together. This is my message.

The President: I appreciate your coming. I know it was a long journey in honor of President Truman -- he was President when Israel came into being.

On the emigration problem, Ambassador Rabin has been very helpful. We need to deal quietly with the Russians.

We are shocked by the terrorism. There is no hope in the UN. They wouldn't help our resolution. We are watching the situation on terrorism in the U.S.

On our future relations, our goal is the same -- peace. We are going to work for a solution mindful of the rights of both sides. We continue our support of the State of Israel. I will see the Prime Minister in February -- we will discuss things in more detail.

Shazar: She is looking forward to seeing you.

The President: She is a strong, remarkable person.

Shazar: Just what we need now.

The President: We talk frankly on many things. Rabin will tell you.

Shazar: I have known her since 1921. We are in the same party, and very close.

The President: Over the next four years our partnership will continue. We will work with you and we will work with the other side. King Hussein is coming. Some of them are reasonable and others are not. We always respect your opinion. We want a peaceful settlement which will not jeopardize the rights of the people of Israel.

I realize you have to depart early. I will escort you to your car.

[President Nixon then escorted President Shazar to his car through the porch.]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: Meeting with President Shazar of Israel
Friday, January 5, 1973
2:00 p. m. (30 minutes)
Oval Office

I. PURPOSE

A courtesy call by President Shazar as head of Israel's delegation to the Memorial Services for President Truman.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, PRESS PLAN

A. Background: A strictly ceremonial figure, President Shazar at 81 is Israel's third President. This May marks a decade in office. He helped found Mrs. Meir's Labor Party. You received him when he led Israel's delegation to President Eisenhower's funeral in March 1969 and for a courtesy call in March 1971.

B. Participants: President Shazar may be accompanied to the White House by the other members of Israel's delegation: Dr. Eliyahu Elath, Israel's first ambassador to the US and Ambassador Rabin.

Dr. Kissinger or representative

C. Press Plan: Brief photo opportunity at the beginning of the meeting. Routine Ron Ziegler press follow-up.

III. RECOMMENDED TALKING POINTS

Attached



10

PRESIDENT SHAZAR OF ISRAEL

1. Points He May Raise

As a ceremonial head, Shazar is unlikely to raise any substantive issues in depth, and discussion on Mid-East or other issues can be general. In general, he may

--Focus on the natural topic of President Truman's role of recognizing Israel (de facto in 1948 and de jure in 1949).

--Seek a general sense of your thinking on Israel and on peace prospects in the Mid-East (since there is general concern that this post-election period may mean a new Mid-East initiative).

--Share his thinking about feelings in Israel.

--Mention that Prime Minister Meir is coming to the US late February. (You have separately agreed to receive her.)

--Have broad interest in your efforts towards world peace, including in Vietnam and with the USSR and China.

2. Talking Points

--It is a personal pleasure to again meet President Shazar as you did in 1969 and 1971.

--Mid-East: Assuming that Shazar will be interested in a general sense of your thinking prior to Mrs. Meir's forthcoming visit here.

--Among your efforts for world peace is the strong hope that the Middle East may move closer to a lasting peace. One important element of this has been and will continue to be US/Israeli relationship and support for Israel's security and wellbeing. In any effort towards peace the US would want to be in close consultation with Israel so that its interests and gains would not be jeopardized. We have no preconceived plan of our own and will not impose any solution, but it is important to our interests as well as Israel's that there be peace.

--You look forward to seeing Prime Minister Meir.


--Other issues: You may find it appropriate to discuss in general terms your perspective on world peace, including relations with the superpowers and your hopes for Vietnam.

18

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON


January 24, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: COLONEL RICHARD T. KENNEDY
FROM: DAVID C. HOOPES 
SUBJECT: Memorandum for the President's File

Please prepare a Memorandum for the President's File on his meeting with His Excellency Shneur Zalman Shazar, President of Israel on Friday, January 5, 1973 at 2:00 p.m.

DATE DUE: Forty-eight (48) hours after receipt of this memorandum.

Thank you.



P - Shorn - Robin - PATC 1400-1415
Jan 5, 1973

S Hamed - Thanks for understanding
- what I mean & answer for us.
Very difficult 36 hours

Remember you said so long as in
official American aid will
not help up. Don't forget
believe and told my people
& Express appreciation

Reaction greeted with great joy
and satisfaction in

appreciable attitude you express
toward Soviet Russia

Despite (ambler) for Israel -
great hope and joy your
new administration

also for Soviet Russian Jews -
great appreciation

through very well ^{to} overcome great
obstacle - way to peace
you desire to involve yourself
us could be combat
with common, attach
appreciation for your attitude
on those problems.

Problem achieve peace with
our neighbors.

To send. Will Jerusalem
under Israel an obstacle &
now I been in demand

60 years. Know problems -
for all parts of Jerusalem
United Jerusalem coming to
be problem of life itself
This is why Jews best for all
parts of Jerusalem.

R - R was born there. I know.

S - Been there since 1911 -
situation now much better
than before for all relations
between all the parts.

Would like you to know real
goal is to achieve peace
with neighbors. Need U.S. help
U.S. should work continuously
to bring both Jews & Arabs
together.
This my message

J. Appreciate your coming long journey
in honor of Pres. Truman - he
President when Israel came into
being

An immigration problem Arab Nation
very helpful. We need to
deal quickly with Russians
& backed by terrorism - not hope
in UN - would help our
resolution
We watching sit on terrorism in US

P an future relations - goal is
some peace - going to
work for solution ^{mutual}
of rights with sides. Continue
suggestion of ~~state~~ of Israel.
Will see PM in February will
discuss in more detail.

S She looking forward to seeing you.

P She strong remarkable person

S Just what we need now

P We talk frequently as R will tell you.

S - have known ^{since 1921} ~~40~~ years - in same
party - close

P - her & your partnership will
continue will work with
you and work with
other side. Hussein
carrying some of them
reasonable others not.
Always respect your opinion
peaceful settlement which
will not jeopardize rights
of people of Israel.

Letize home to depart early -
will send you to your car.

Pass. the routes to car through
porch.

