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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

 PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald R. Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, November 12, 1974 9:20 - 10:10 a.m.
PLACE: The Oval Office The White House

<u>The President:</u> My economic people want me to restrict pork for Canada as well as beef.

<u>Kissinger</u>: My people oppose it, but I think if we retaliate, we should do so strongly.

The President: Is Quito the same?

<u>Kissinger</u>: Yes. But if we go around lobbying for something we didn't want [lifting the embargo on Cuba], it's cynical and weak. If this time it fails, maybe in three months it can go through. We will eventually talk to Cuba and we can't do it while we are hard-lining in the OAS.

The President: I see Brazil abstaining.

<u>Kissinger:</u> They are slightly more hard line than us, but they don't want to be left behind. State had been for voting for, but I straightened that out.

The President: This lakovos thing is bad.

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<u>Kissinger</u>: It's the Greek left. I think before you leave we should get that Turkish resolution fixed.

The President: This session will be a farce. There will be only two working weeks really, at the end of December. I told Carl [Albert] we had to have the authorization. I said: Why don't you call Rosenthal to get the Turkish amendment chopped? Carl was not optimistic.

<u>Kissinger</u>: We have anti-American riots in Ankara. We are seeing our position weakening everywhere. This lakovos thing hurts Caramanlis badly; it hurts us marginally but that doesn't matter. We practically have an agreement with the Greeks for a settlement, but this will hurt our chances.

<u>The President:</u> The joker is this guy in Washington who I think gave it 'to Demetracopoulos.

<u>Kissinger</u>: Aid to Ethiopia. The new strong man has asked for more arms. I told him we could give only \$8 million, because of \$40 million African restriction.

You know, Sadat once asked me why we weren't aiding Ethiopia. He said they're creating a Soviet satellite there if we don't give them arms. I told him there was a \$40 million Congressional ceiling on arms aid to all of Africa. He couldn't believe it.

You are now paying for the days of Johnson and Nixon. Everywhere we are turning up a bit short.

I saw Huang Chen yesterday. I told him about the Soviet offer of an alliance with us. I didn't ask about their initiative to the Soviets. He was friendly and congratulated us on India moving away from the Soviet Union.

We announce relations with Algeria today.

Korea. It's the opposite of Japan, where no one can make a conclusive decision. I think you will have a successful visit in Japan.

I had dinner with Time Magazine and gave them hell. I said, "Who is with the President? Truman had the establishment with him. We haven't had a normal Presidency since Ike."

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<u>The President:</u> What was the reaction? We need leadership from the media.

Kissinger: Very positive.

<u>The President:</u> Congress will respond if they get pressure from the other side.

<u>Kissinger:</u> I think if you follow the line you said on Sunday and do what is right, you will make it. They are scared. Everything is unraveling.

The President: I will do it.

<u>Kissinger:</u> I am no magician. We spent three years building the successes of 1972.

The President: I told U.S. News that I will run in 1976.

Kissinger: That is essential.

After you win a few and become a little dangerous, I think you can recoup it.

<u>The President:</u> What do you think of this? It's Don's suggestion. When I get back, go to the press room and say "I have a program before you, I will strengthen it in the State of the Union, but why don't you come up with your own State of the Union?"

<u>Kissinger</u>: They can't. I wouldn't do that. I would go on the offensive, though. Say that Congress hasn't passed it.

<u>The President:</u> It is a question of whether we ask them to pass ours or challenge them to come up with their own. Let's think about it.

<u>Kissinger</u>: Korea. I would have a small meeting with Park and give him the sense that you are behind him. Overthrowing him could lead to incalculable consequences. You could quietly tell him he could make it look a little better.

We will agree to abolishing the UN Command and have South Korea sign the Armistice. Panmunjom would be conducted between North and South

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Korea with the U.S. and China as observers. I think we have the votes to defeat the North Korean resolution. You should ask Park if we can talk to North Korea. They are coming at us all over the world. He will be leery if Soviet Union and Chinese won't talk to him. It is not a big issue because we have little to gain.

When we withdrew our forces in 1971, we promised him \$1.5 billion which we have never fulfilled. There is not much we can do about it.

What he needs most is a feeling of support. Tell him frankly we have let him down militarily but we will do our best.

He should be careful in his confrontations with North Korea. He is a bit cocky.

We don't want anything from them, and they basically don't want anything from us except support.

On SALT, we are having a helluva time reaching 2,400. If we had to do more, we would have to have a lot of new programs.

Kreisky. He is an impressive guy. We have no bilateral business so we can talk about world business.

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