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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

The President

Ignatiy T. Novikov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and Chairman of the State Committee for

Construction Affairs

Carla A. Hills, Secretary of Housing and

Urban Development

Amb. Anatoliy Dobrynin, Soviet Ambassador

to the United States

Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Wednesday, June 18, 1975

10:25 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

[The press was admitted for photographs]

President: We will have some pictures.

Novikov: It is the normal procedure. We do the same.

President: I understand you are active in the Olympic Program.

Novikov: I am Chairman of the Olympic Committee. I didn't know I would be given such responsibility. I am a bit sorry.

President: It looks like you were an athlete.

Novikov: I played soccer, a little.

[The press left]

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Novikov: First, Mr. President, I want to convey to you what occurred at my meeting with General Secretary Brezhnev before I left Moscow. The General Secretary asked me to send his greetings. He fondly recalled the meeting with you in Vladivostok. He noted what progress was expected in the field of limitation of nuclear armaments. He asked me to convey to you his wishes that the question would be resolved in a positive manner on your side, and he is looking forward to meeting with you soon to resolve it.

The second thing he asked was, on 14 June he addressed a body of the Russian Soviet Federated Republic. Knowing that both we and you devote much time to enhancing and extending detente, he thought he should put it also before his electorate. He wants you to know that he will continue his efforts to strengthen detente. He noted that you have also spoken on the strengthening of detente and that it is something the whole world seeks.

This is his main message. On other questions, he hoped that the American proposals would be constructive and in the interests of the whole world.

President: Thank you, Mr. Minister. Please convey to the General Secretary my greetings and my fond recollections of Vladivostok. Both of us approached the problems of Vladivostok in a constructive way and I think the outcome can be not only in the interests of our two countries but of the world as a whole. I can assure the General Secretary that we will approach the problem of resolving the final issues in a constructive way and we hope the technical issues remaining can be resolved and we can take the final step in the not too distant future. Please also tell General Secretary Brezhnev that I noted his comments in the press when he spoke to the political organization on detente. It coincided with my views on the strengthening of detente. It is important to us both, and to reducing tension on a worldwide basis.

It seems to me that the agreement that you and Secretary Hills will sign on the 19th is a further move to benefit detente. I am very interested in the six subjects which will be agreed to, and I hope the progress here will be useful in other areas.

Dobrynin: They will sign today. They are working too hard.

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Novikov: First of all, I will convey with great pleasure your words to General Secretary Brezhnev and I thank you for your words to us. I have only one other thing on this matter. General Secretary Brezhnev is working on materials which are important to CSCE and we are hoping that you will be working on it, and he is looking forward to meeting with you on that occasion.

President: [to Dobrynin] Did Henry talk to you about this?

Dobrynin: Yes.

<u>President:</u> My understanding is that if we can resolve this one issue we can move forward to a meeting the week of 21 July and that would be avvery worthwhile conclusion. I am looking forward to seeing General Secretary Brezhnev at that time.

Novikov: A great deal of this depends on you, not only on us.

<u>President:</u> We are approaching it constructively, and I hope the compromise being put forth will permit a Helsinki conference in a month or so.

Novikov: I will convey your comments. One other item that General Secretary Brezhnev asked me to convey is the internal situation. We are fulfulling our plan at the level of 8.8 percent. It was 6.2 percent which was in the plan. Therefore, we will meet the five year plan.

<u>President:</u> Secretary Hills is in charge of our construction. We are beginning to see some progress and we will go down the road together.

<u>Novikov:</u> We are working with Secretary Hills for three days. Our work will contribute to the success in this and all other fields. These six items -- you know them well -- will become even more important in the future. Our specialists will meet more often and the increased contact will contribute to the relations between our countries.

President: We keep Carla busy but you should invite her to Moscow.

Novikov: Mr. President, let me give you this. [He hands the President a book and invites the President to Moscow in 1980 for the Olympics].

President: In 1980 I will have more time. I hope I will still be here, and since I will not be running I may be able to come.

[The meeting ended].

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