## SECRET/NODIS/XC\_S MEMORANDUM

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

## MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

The President

Golda Meir

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary

of State

Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the

President for National Security

Affairs

Simcha Dinitz, Ambassador of Israel

Eytan Bentsur, Counselor, Embassy of

Israel

DATE AND TIME:

Friday, December 19, 1975

10:30 a.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

[The press enters for photographs. There is small talk about the Congress rush, airline strike, the Golda portrait, etc. The press then leaves.]

The President: It is very nice to see you. A lot has happened since I last saw you. It was exactly a year ago. I know Henry has met with you.

Kissinger: I got scolded last time.

President: We do think progress has been made in the Middle East. We and Israel have gotten along well. We have had some sharp words, but as friends, not as opponents. I want to reaffirm we are dedicated to the safety and survival of Israel. We may have tactical differences, but this Administration is going to continue our long history of standing with Israel. There is no backing off that firm commitment.

Meir: I don't think the Government ever doubted that. We are democracies and must put up with our presses. I agree with you on some things but not every one.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Devices 3/11/04

BY MARA. DATE 4/4/04

EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 58(1),(3)
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Ing. + det.

For example, the PLO sitting in on the UN Security Council. We think it is dangerous, because the more the Security Council tries to deal with the problem and thinks it can solve it... I don't think you think so, and we can't accept it. There is a solution to PLO through Jordan, but not through a third state. There is nothing we can talk to the PLO about.

<u>President</u>: We have said that so long as the PLO doesn't recognize Israeli existence we believe nothing is possible.

Meir: With our neighbors we can negotiate. So as soon as they want to, we can agree instantly. But we can't negotiate with terrorists who just want us out. The danger is that if the Security Council thinks it can decide and enforce a settlement, they just make peace more distant.

President: We will not be a party to an imposed settlement of any kind.

<u>Kissinger:</u> Your Prime Minister is the only one who doesn't believe that. We have insisted that only 242 and 336 are relevant issues for the Security Council.

<u>President</u>: I would like your assessment. We are disturbed about Lebanon. It seems a confused mess.

Meir: May I smoke? [ she lights up. ]

Sincerely, my heart aches over Lebanon. They don't have democracy as you know it, but it is relatively democratic. It is a delicate situation but they have managed for over 20 years. There is no doubt Syria is interested in this upheaval. We are baffled by it.

The shocking thing is the attitude of the world toward it. It doesn't come up in the Security Council or the General Assembly while all this killing is going on.

<u>President:</u> It is primarily in Beirut.

Meir: Not exclusively. But the PLO has more power than the Government. I can't understand the world standing by. I am surprised the Pope doesn't say something. After all, these are Christians being killed.

[ A note on the Senate vote in Angola is sent in.]

## SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

<u>President:</u> We thought we had it worked out. But they are all so timid and gun shy.

Meir: You weren't asking to send personnel.

President: No, and it is a pitiful scene for a world power.

Meir: What does it mean for small countries? How can you ask them to take risks? We take risks in the passes and for peace.

<u>President:</u> I am very worried about the attitude of the Congress. The attitude of the Congress is worse than that of the American people.

<u>Kissinger:</u> In a way this is worse than Vietnam. That had gone on for years and we inherited it. What does this do for us in the world? We had our friends in Africa with us. We were getting support from NATO for a policy outside Europe, for the first time.

[Discussion of the Angola compromise]

<u>President</u>: I have just been informed they won't give us the money. This is a disaster for the country.

We felt the Sinai agreement was constructive in helping us move toward peace. If we don't hold out the prospect of progress I think it would lead to serious consequences.

Meir: They can't have it both ways.

Pus in Small with compens much, arrhive strike, How Colda postivit, ita tusont P. It is eny me to see you. a lot his hypord fine a grays, I have the has wet w/ L' got siddel lat Ting we to think projust her have mall m. NE. We has gottend will - in home had shurgerads, but as fruits and as spormet, Errout to respect where hartachiel dig but this admin is go to wrome own long history tunding at I There is a borning of that firm without I don't think a Gent ever lunble ! That we and demonais o must put my wompens. Sound thing but her one. For example, Was withing in on UNISC We think it is drypping home - mes a Sc transto deal of a fort + thinks it can whe st. Gluit think you think so + we count a west It. Thom is a solution to the thin Jordon, bit-not thoma 3 set starte. Three is withing we can talk to flo object. We have find so long as 160 downt My I exis we have mothing is porto We on unghbre un un my et. So soon as they want to we can agree moderath. fort my cont myst or / Eurouts who just went wo ant. Dunger in that if SU Think I can levide or more a settlement, they

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, 5 tate le j. eus 3/11/04

BY NARA, DATE L/4/04

feet moto place mu distant I we will not be a part to on inject rettlement for him. K your INI is carly one who downt believe that We have mosted that only 242033 take Ment rose po Sc dward like you assent. We distribed about below. It selves a Confred viles M (Zung I senstre) Sminh, and hast aches oner helman. They don't have almos as you how it, but it is relatively so. It is a chlicate got but they have myd for me zo ys. There is no doubt Syrie is intusti in this ryboard, We are boffled 5 M The shoot this is cartitude for world toward it. It down town you a SL ac GA, while all this bulling is going on. I bet from on but In not exclusively But Pho has mu former than a Good & court intestrul a world structing by, I surgerselle / ope dousent Long boarthing after all, the air Christins bing hilled. (hotion Onyoh sent in) I wa the are had it worked ont. But They In your took for personal P. Mr, and it is a jutiful server for a could My what day it much for forall courts? How con you ask thank take with?

We low the eight in a purseo - for pina. P. I want about - allitude of com, The on thitale for Congress arose Chan the That am peget. had go for for years the inherited At.
What days this do for we in a world?
We had am frinkerin afin w/ us, was
we getting tepport from Native which Em

(Discussion for anyola congression). I have just home regional they want give · committy. P we felt a Some concert was more of mit infration + that it was water his in beging c propert of propers 9 this it would be had to send how it how way