

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Gerald R. Ford
Congressman George Mahon
Congressman Otto Passman
Congressman Garner Shriver
Congressman Elford Cederberg
Max L. Friedersdorf, Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Monday, March 29, 1976
10:25 - 10:55 a.m.

PLACE: The Cabinet Room

The President: I wanted to talk to you. I think the Senate has made a serious mistake on this transition quarter. I want to tell you confidentially I can't buy it.

Mahon: I hope not.

The President: I am in the difficult position of vetoing domestic bills and the Senate -- for the Israelis, let's face it -- adds this much. I just can't do it.

I gave \$1.5 billion in 1976. OMB thought it should be \$750 million for 1977 and I raised it to \$1 billion. The technical people say Israel is better off than before the 1973 war. I just won't capitulate to the lobby. If the Congress sends down here that bill, I will veto it. If it is overridden, I will send up a rescission and you will have to vote on that. That isn't good for you all and the Jewish community.

Cederberg: There are no votes for you there.

Mahon: Can you stand firm with all the Jewish pressure?



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E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/20/00, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Review 3/12/04

RY lck NARA DATE 6/17/04

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2

The President: Do you doubt it?

Mahon: If you will, I certainly will. Can you do anything with the Senate?

The President: Max?

Friedersdorf: The Senate bunch is very weak. I think the best is for the House to stand fast.

Mahon: What if we send it to the floor in disagreement?

Passman: We would be clobbered on the floor. The only way is in Conference.

The President: I think a veto will be sustained.

Passman: No, it wouldn't, Mr. President. We can handle it in conference. I have certain questions which I have to resolve. I need a few hours.

The President: I am dedicated to the survival of Israel. But they don't need this and I won't be rolled for it.

Mahon: The basic point is they don't need it so we shouldn't vote it.

Shriver: They are putting out that the Administration would oppose it.

Friedersdorf: That came on the authorizing legislation and a phone call from Humphrey to Kissinger.

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P/ Cong. Mahan, et al ✓

29 Mar 76

P I wanted to talk to you. I think a Senate has made a serious mistake on this. I want to tell you confidentially I can't say it.

M I hope not.

P I'm in a diff. position of entering domestic bills + Senate - for a T, let's face it - adds this much. I just can't do it.

I gave 1.5 bill in 76. OMB that 750 for 77 & I revised it to 1 bill. The tech people say it better off than before 73 was. I just can't cooperate to a lobby. If a Cong. sends down here that bill, I will veto. If it is amended I will send up a message & you will have to vote on that. That isn't good for the Jewish community.

C There are no votes for you there.

M Can you stand firm w/ all the Jewish people.

P Do you doubt it?

M If you will, I certainly will. Can you do anything w/ a Senate.

P What?

Friedson: The Senate branch is very weak. I think that has to be a House & stand fast.

M What if we send it to the floor in disagreement.

Pass. We would be blocked on a floor. The only way is in Conf.

P I think a veto would be sustained

Pass. In it wouldn't, Mr. P. We can handle it in Conf. I have certain reservations which I have to resolve. I need a few hours.

P I am dedicated to a survival of I. But

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E.O. 12958, SEC. 2.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/00, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, state review 3/12/04

BY h, NARA, DATE 4/17/04



* Process - Get figures in court

they don't need this & I won't be called
for it.

M. The basic point is they don't need it so we
shouldn't use it.

Sch. They are putting out that a decision wouldn't be
F. That ~~was~~ was an order. Reyes + a placard from
Hamphrey & R.

FOA - NIAH

