

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

AR 01-100, # 45; et. etc 10/1/01

By del NARA, Date 10/24/01

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger,
Secretary of State
Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary
of Defense
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant
to the President for National
Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Tuesday, May 18, 1976
9:02 - 10:14 a.m.

Rumsfeld: The ruble expenditure paper comes out today. We have not interfered with the timing of it. What this tells us is that we underestimated their expenditure effort, overestimated their efficiency, and it makes no difference in their force strength.

[Some discussion of pros and cons.]

I will have a backgrounder for the wires and nets just to put the right spin on it.

[Secretary Kissinger enters, at 9:15 a.m.]

[Discussion of the State Dinner]

The President: Burns talked with Schmidt who suggested a Big Three meeting to promise consortium aid to Italy if the Christian Democrats win and giving no support if the Communists win.

Kissinger: I think there are dangers in this. It's also German electoral politics. Why don't you ask Giscard for his views?

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The President: The Vice President also raised the issue of exchange support for the Italians.

Scowcroft: I am having the economic people look at the Italian need and what to do.

Kissinger: I think the only thing which will sell Giscard is North-South relations.

[Some discussion of Rambouillet II. It was agreed the Weekend of 26 June was the best.]

The President: How about having Canada at Rambouillet II? Trudeau is apparently going to raise natural gas prices.

Kissinger: I have authorized a sharp note for Enders to deliver.

Scowcroft: Trudeau would like to come down here for dinner.

The President: I think we should be tough. We don't have to push for them in Rambouillet II. If they will be reasonable, we can have him down here.

Kissinger: I will see Mac Eachen this week. I will pressure him at least to delay it past June 8.

The President: Let's work on it.

Kissinger: Giscard might raise the idea of sending French troops into Lebanon. The problem is that this could be a cover for Syrian intervention, which would drive the Israelis wild. If they went in, I would ask for specific guarantees that the forces will get out. I wouldn't turn Giscard down, but those are the problems in it.

Rumsfeld: What is going on in Jordan?

Kissinger: The problems started when we didn't push the Israelis hard enough in '74 and then came Rabat. Then came the Hawk deal, and Hussein decided he had to move toward Syria. I think the King will be overthrown. Rifai probably wants to be the first President of Jordan.

Rumsfeld: I was going to the Middle East in July.

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Kissinger: I think you should and you should also go to Kinshasa.

[Discussion of Rumsfeld trip. Agreed he would go to Africa rather than Clements.]

I have some problem with your going to the Middle East. Especially Egypt, where the last thing we need is Lynn telling the Egyptians how inefficient they are.

The President: We can program Lynn to behave.

Rumsfeld: SALT. We are drafting a proposed letter to Brezhnev.
We will circulate it and then have a meeting.

P/K/R

15 May 76



R The subtle expenditure paper coming out today. We have not interfered w/c timing of it. What this tells us is that we underestimated their effort, overestimated their efficiency, + makes us dig in their face strength.

(Some discussion of pros + cons)

I will have background for union + vote just to put a report in on it.

(R enters)

(Discussion of State Division)

P Bureau talked w/ Schmidt who suggested a big 3 vote + promise execution and if a CD's win + no support if a Gove's win.

K I think there are dangers in this - also Green electoral politics. Why don't you ask Cascard for his views.

P The VP also raised a issue of X change support for ~~the~~ a Italian

S I am having a secor people look at a Italian need + what to do

K I think a early thing which will sell Cascard is N-S relations.

(Some discussion of Room II)

(Greenland of 26 June agreed last)
P ~~Hanscomb~~ ~~Comala~~ at Room II?
P AT nuclear ~~is~~ is apparently going to raise nat gas prices.

R I have criticized a strong note for Ender to deliver

S Trudican would like to come down here for dinner

P I think we should be tough. We don't have to push factors in Room II. If they will be necessary

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BY lh NLF, DATE 8/2/04



to have him down here.

R Don't see Mac Eather this week. I will persuade him at least to delay past June 8.

P Let's work on it.

R Giscard might raise F-4 troops into Lebanon. The prob is that this could be a cover for Syrian intervention, which would drive C.I. out. If they went in I would ask for specific guarantees that a peace will get out. I would not turn Giscard down but there are a prob in it.

R What going on in Jordan?

R Two prob started when we didn't push C.I. hard enough ~~then~~ in 74 + then came Kobat. Then C. Houk died + Hussein decided he had to move toward Syria. I think the King will be overthrown. Refai prob wants to be 1st Pres. of Jordan.

R I was going to C. ME in July.

X I think you should also go to Kuwait. (Discussion of Rensfield trip. Agreed he would go to Africa rather than Kuwait).

There some prob w/ bygone going to ME, E of Egypt, where a last trip are needed ~~before~~ ^{before} taking C.E. know sufficient they are.

P We can program bygone to ahead.

R Salt. We are drafting a proposed letter to Beez. We will circulate it others have a copy.

