THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

-SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary

of State

Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security

Affairs

DATE AND TIME

Wednesday, July 7, 1976

10:03 - 10:45 a.m.

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The Oval Office

Kissinger: I won't try to hit home runs in my Portland and Seattle speeches.

President: I agree, but the crowds are good.

Kissinger: I would like to talk about the NATO consultation issue. Strausz-Hupe is upset that these meetings bypass NATO machinery. The issues being discussed outside NATO wouldn't have been discussed within NATO anyway because they would leak.

Without my knowledge, my maniacs have now scheduled Scranton to report in Brussels on his African trip as UN ambassador, and they also invited people from the capitals -- making it a big show. It shouldn't have been done.

President: Where are we now?

Kissinger: We have told Strauz-Hupe to cave. He can have a luncheon with the Perm Reps.

President: I don't think Scranton's trip warrants a big show.

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CLASSIFIED BY HENRY A. KISSINGER EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF ENECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5 (b) (1.3) AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Imp. to det. <u>Kissinger:</u> Actually, our relations with NATO have never been better. I think we should have an NSC meeting to cover a number of things. You should lay down the law -- we won't drive the French into the Alliance by being tough -- quite the opposite. Carter will try it, but it won't work.

Dobrynin asked us whether we wanted a SALT Agreement. He said we could do it on the basis of the January proposals. I don't think you need to do anything before the Convention but it will necessitate some blood spilling. I think there is no chance on the basis of the last proposal -- although Ikle thinks we could if it was pushed harder.

President: I want a SALT Agreement.

Scowcroft: I am afraid that if we wait until after the Convention it will look purely political.

President: Let me look at the two basic options over the weekend.

<u>Kissinger:</u> On the Israeli raid in Uganda. We will propose a UN Security Council resolution condemning terrorism. The Africans will propose one condemning Israel. We will have to veto.

<u>President:</u> We must veto. But wouldn't we be better off not offering ours and just vetoing theirs? Then we don't veto half of a good resolution.

Kissinger: Let me check with Scranton on that.

President: Are the Saudis going to make a deal with Jordan?

Kissinger: I think it will work out.

[There is discussion of Lebanon]

<u>Kissinger:</u> It's going well although we could take some flak for not being politically more active. But why call for a round table discussion since it wouldn't work?

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