

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: The Cabinet

DATE AND TIME: Monday, August 30, 1976
10:41 a.m. - 12:28 p.m.

PLACE: Cabinet Room

President: (Introductory comments)

Henry, why don't you tell us about Korea and South Africa?

Kissinger: Let me describe the DMZ and the Joint Security Area.

North Korea has four guard posts on our side of the line. We have none on their side. At the meetings, our troops sometimes go into their part of the zone, but rarely, especially compared to the number of times they are in our area.

(Described the tree pruning incident and sequence) They said the incident was "regretful" -- which is the farthest they had ever gone. We said that that statement was a positive sign but it was not enough -- it had to insure the security of our forces. They have proposed that each side be restricted to its side of the line. The practical effect of that is they dismantle four guard posts and we do nothing.

The ROK is now talking tougher -- in direct proportion to the reduction in the likelihood of conflict. We must either wrap this up, be willing to use force, or they will see we are bluffing and hit us in the face again.

President: I want you all to know we were prepared to take other military actions had the need developed. It is my opinion, we should wrap it up now.

How about Africa?

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AUTHORITY RAC Review 12/16/04; State visit 3/13/04
BY hp NLF, DATE 4/19/07



Kissinger: There is a guerrilla war now going on in Rhodesia. There is the beginning of one in South-West Africa and the UN resolution that South African occupation there is illegal.

On Rhodesia, the guerrilla war is supported by all the surrounding states. In April, the confrontation states agreed not to let outside powers into the guerrilla war. This is to keep the Communists out. It is our and South Africa's judgment that if there is no resolution, it is inevitable that the whites will be wiped out -- it is just a matter of how long. The eventual outcome is foreordained.

If Rhodesia falls because of the Soviet/Cuban intervention, there will be an acceleration toward them and there will be a race war in South Africa. So, it is very important whether the changes in Rhodesia and South-West Africa come about through American help or through Soviet/Cuban assistance -- it is decisive for Africa. This is the judgment of all the countries involved -- including South Africa. If nothing is done, South Africa may be forced to help the whites in Rhodesia, and then we will have Angola once again, but this time the whites against the blacks.

(Describes the prospects in Namibia) In Rhodesia we have to get South African support and that of the four confrontation states -- including shutting down the guerrilla war if there is a settlement. I don't want to go into the details of the negotiations, but we do have a chance -- a better one in Namibia than in Rhodeisa.

I realize we don't need more African turmoil in a campaign, but if it doesn't come off now, we are faced with an increasingly brutal war, with the eventual loss of Rhodesia and a race war against South Africa.

Bush: We clearly agree with Secretary Kissinger's view. The trend is inexorable if nothing is done. The black guerrilla leaders are divided but united on the principle that a white Rhodesia is anathema. We had an earlier estimate of six months; now we think it is more like a year to 18 months.

Kissinger: South Africa thinks the year can be cut down if the other side has foreign officers and even more if they have foreign troops. To do it, the moderates have to get Machel on board and then get the guerrillas together. And there is a powerful predisposition to let nature take its course -- with the tragic results I have indicated.

Bush: We can't say how many Cubans are there, but there are some in Mozambique. But we just don't yet have precise data.

President: Let me just make one overall observation. We have a tough campaign ahead. I said we were ready to do more in Korea, if necessary, despite the embarrassment of having it come right after my acceptance speech. If we needed to, we could have done it. Also here, it is right and we are going to do it. We will take whatever political consequences there are, although I think in the long run they will be good.

This is true across the board. Don't just make recommendations based on the campaign. Tell me what is right to do.

(Kleppe on National Parks improvement)

(Marsh on Congressional activities)

(Greenspan on the Economy)

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Cabinet Mtg 30 Aug 76

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10:41 - 12:28 pm

P (Introductory comment)

Henry, why don't you tell us about Kusa & S.A.

K (Describes c DMZ + c JSA).

NK has 4 guard posts on one side of line. We have none in their side. At mtg, our troops sometimes go into their part of zone, but rarely, esp compared to them in our area.

(Described the prisoner incident + sequence)
They said incident was regretful - a fact that they had more guards. We said that a post patrolled signs but not empty - had to ensure security of faces. They proposed each side being restricted to its side of line - practical effect is they dismantle 4 guard posts + we do nothing.

Rok is now talking tougher - in direct proportion to a reduction in likelihood of conflict. We must either wrap this up, be willing to see face, or they will see we are bluffing + hit us in a face again.

P I want you all to know we were prepared to take other mtg. actions had we needed.

It my opinion we should wrap it now.

How about Africa.

K There is a guerrilla war in Rhodesia. There is req. for in SWA + UN Res. that SA occupation is illegal.

On Rhodesia, a guerrilla war is supported by all surrounding states. In April, a committee states a goal not to let outside powers into guerrilla war. This to bring a truce out.

It our + SA judgement that if no resolution its inevitable + whites will be wiped out - just

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a matter of how long. The eventual outcome is preordained.

If Rhodesia falls because of SU/Carbon intervention there will be an acceleration toward them & there will be a race war in SA.

So, it is very important whether & changes in Rhodesia & S.A. come about thru US aid or thru SU/Carbon assist. It is decisive for Africa. This is a judgment of all - incl SA. If nothing is done, SA may be forced to help whites & then we will have Angola all over again, but this time whites against blacks.

(Describes prospects in Namibia)

In Rhodesia we have to get SA support & that of 4 co-partition states - incl shutting down guerrillas. I don't want to go into details of report, but we do have a chance; better in Namibia than Rhodesia.

I realize we don't need more African turmoil in a campaign, but if it doesn't come off now, we face w/ an increasingly brutal war, w/ eventual loss of Rhodesia & a race war against SA.

Book We closely agree w/ HAK views. The trend is inescapable if nothing is done. The black guerrilla leaders are divided but united that a white Rhodesia is anathema. We had an earlier est. of 6 mos; now we think it more like a year - 18 mos.

K S.A. thinks a year ~~is~~ can be cut down w/ foreign aid & more use of foreign troops. To do it, a mechanism has to get made or found & then get guerrillas together. And then

OS-50 Joint Comm.

Edw. Sullivan Bill. - look at Bush memo.

is fundamental premise. To let nature take its course - all the tragic results I have indicated. Bush we can't say how many Cubans there, but there are now in Uroguay, but we just don't yet have precise data.

I let me just make one more statement. We have a troop campaign ahead. I said we were ready to do more in Korea if necessary, despite the embarrassment of the my acceptance speech. If we could do, we would have done it. Also here, it is right and we are going to do it. We'll take whatever political consequences that are, and I think in long run they will be good.

This is true across the board. I set just words, based on a campaign. Tell me what is right to do.

(Klippe on North Parks improvement)

(March on Cong. activities)

(Greenpan on Economy)