

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

CONFIDENTIAL-

PLACE: OEOB Office TIME: 3:00 p.m. DATE: January 18, 1974

SUBJECT: Meeting with French Ambassador Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet

PARTICIPANTS:

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The Vice President Major General Dunn

Ambassador Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet Mr. Gerard Errera, Second Secretary of the French Embassy

After an exchange of pleasantries the Ambassador emphasized his desire to broaden his contacts here to include state and local officials. He asked that our Office help in any way possible in this regard. He then went on to say that he welcomes Dr. Kissinger's success in the Middle East, although the separation of forces represents only the first step. It is, nonetheless, a very real and important beginning.

The Vice President replied that it would certainly be well received here. Americans generally feel that it is important that both sides recognize that neither side can have everything they want. The Ambassador replied that basically there are two needs in the Middle East: one, recognition of Israel; and two, recognition by Israel that firm boundaries must be established. He went on to say that he had warned Rabin of the possibility of quick progress by the Arabs with the help of the USSR. This now had come true. He said further that it is important to remember that detente must





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mean neither neutralization of Europe nor neutrality on the part of any Western nation. "It is very important that the West not lower its guard at this point." He emphasized also the maintenance by the French of an independent nuclear capability -- at great expense and without US help. This, because in the event of a US withdrawal such a capability would be critical to the defense of Europe. He spoke also about the realism of the Chinese with regard to Russian intentions.

After a further exchange of pleasantries the meeting ended with the Ambassador suggesting that the Vice President visit France.

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