

MEMORANDUM

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Nixon
Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel
Major General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant
to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Monday, June 17, 1974

PLACE: The Knesset
Jerusalem

SUBJECT: Private Meeting on Israeli Long-Term Arms
Needs

Rabin: The Soviets have furnished three generations of weapons and
and are preparing a fourth for the Arabs.

The problems we face are, first, the terrorists. We are thinking
of putting a network of sensors along the Lebanese border to stop
infiltration.

By 1984 the Arabs will have 1300 SCUDS (there are now 400 in
Egypt), 2600 aircraft, and 250 SAM batteries. We want to maintain the
ratio of one to three, that is, an Israeli force of one-third of the Arab
armaments. To do this we want to buy over the next ten years: 600 planes,
2000 artillery pieces, and the Pershing and Lance missiles. We will
need shelters for our tanks and planes and to fortify our frontiers, and
so on. A posture of defense is more costly than a posture of mobility.

The Soviets are providing an early warning for the Arabs. We
have lost our 12-24 hour early warning. Therefore we must trade space
for time. So our frontiers are also mobile and therefore we must fortify
border after border as the negotiations move step by step.

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E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, State Dep. aw 3/9/04
DATE 8/6/04



Our ten-year plan will have two five-year parts. We want joint technological ventures in Defense -- that is, with the anti-tank missile, anti-personnel weapons, and helicopters.

In sum, Mr. President, we will negotiate but we must not at the same time risk our survival.

The total force against us now is as follows: 4500 tanks; 2500 artillery pieces; and 200 SAMs. This is a big force even by World War II standards. The Arabs have twice as many as Hitler had. In addition there are 2000 organized terrorists. Their headquarters are in Beirut and Damascus, some in fortified positions and underground.

Their air defenses have made our ground support more difficult.

Israel's defense expenditures were half of our GNP as a result of the October War. In 1974 Israel must spend \$2 billion compared with \$100 million in 1972. The ratio of our taxes to national income is the highest in the world -- 62%. An annual deficit of \$3 billion is forecast. Two billion of this is due to defense. From '70-74, Israel spend \$4.3 billion for defense -- \$2.3 billion in US credits.

For the next ten years -- 1974-83 -- we will need \$1.5 billion in US assistance per year. Over the next five years we need \$20 billion; \$7.5 billion will be purchased in the U.S. We need \$3 billion in U.S. aid over the next 2-3 years. For all other purposes, \$1/2 billion per year. \$8 billion is for covering defense expenditures over the next We would like the \$1.5 billion in grant. We propose an economic cooperation agreement.

The President: I understand your situation. Unfortunately, you know I can't commit past my term. The Congress won't appropriate more than on a yearly basis. In addition, to go public with a massive -- \$2 billion a year -- program for Israel gives us a massive political problem. You don't need the symbolism. You must think in long-range terms, but we should present it as that. The enormity of it would be counterproductive.

Some people say we should have a treaty with you; I think you do better without one.

What you need is to get it done -- not the symbolism. Work closely with us, but stay away from the rhetoric and focus on the hardware.



For my term, you have the technological cooperation agreements.

We must talk further about the long-term commitment. I don't want you to make plans on a U.S. commitment we can't deliver.



Pres/Robin/One
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- Scars have furnished 3 generations
of weapons & are preparing a 4th for
- Arabs.

Problems -
- Terror

(How about sensors along Lebanon
border for infiltration?)

- By 1984 the Arabs will have
1200 Scuds (400 now in E)
2600 Art
250 SAM batteries.

We want to enter ration of 1:3
i.e., 1/3 of Arab armaments.

We want to buy over next 10 years
600 planes
2000 Art
Pushing & home missiles

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We will need shelters for tanks
& planes, fortify facilities, etc.
Defense is more costly than
mobility.

The Scuds provide an EW net for
Arabs.

We have lost some 12-24 early
warning.

∴ we must trade space for
time. Some facilities are
also mobile! we must
fortify border after border as
negotiations were step by step.

Over 10 yr plan will have 2
5 yr pt parts.

- We want joint tech venture in
Df. - 17 AT missile, Anti personal
helicopter

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We will negotiate but we
must not at same time risk
our survival.

Total Force against us.
4500 Tanks

2500 Art

200 SAM

This is a big force war by US standards
Arabs have 2x as many as Soviets had

There are 2000 organized terrorists.

They are in Beirut & Damascus -
some in fortified & underground.

Lebanon - their air defenses have made
ground support more difficult.

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NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES, Stat Review 3/9/04

BY lhp DATE 8/6/04

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I discuss expenditures under 42 GNP
as result of
For 74 I must spend 3 bil compared
w/ 700 mil in 72.
Ratio of taxes to total income is highest
in world (62%)
Annual deficit of 3 bil is present.
(2 bil is defense)
For 70-74 I spent 4.3 for def. -
2.3 by US credits.
For next 10 yrs - 74-83:
1.5 bil US assist/yr.
(over next 5 yrs 20 bil, 7.5 will
be purchased in US.)
We need 3 bil US cred even next
2-3 yrs.
For all other purposes, 1/2 bil/yr

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8 bil for emergency ^{def} expenditures over
next yrs.
We would like ~ 1.5 in grant.
We propose a 2 year crop agreement:
P- I can't commit past my term
Long term agreement must be made
on a yearly basis.
P- To go further as a mission (2 bil/yr) for
P- I give us a massive potential
for. You don't need a symposium.
You must think in long range terms, but
but we shouldn't present it as that.
This opportunity if it would be unmitigated
productive.
P- Some say we should have treaty w/ you -
you do better w/o one.

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What you need is to get it done -
not a ~~symbolic~~ symposium. We can
close off no, but stay away from a
shelter + focus on a hardware.
For my ~~long~~ term, you have ^{tech} a long
agreements.
We must talk further about long term
contract. Don't want you to make
plans on US contract we can't deliver.