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MEMORANDUM

## THE WHITE HOUSE

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

<u>MR.01-190 # 48: NSC LD, 10/15/01</u> By dal NARA Date 10/24/01

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, July 13, 1976

PLA CE:

The Oval Office

9:16 - 10:23 a.m.

[Discussion of Carter and the Democrats' attitudes toward him]

<u>Kissinger</u>: The present governor, Busby, really gave me a bitter diatribe against him.

Rumsfeld: In Newsweek, the former editor of the Atlanta Constitution really blasts him.

<u>President</u>: Last night at the Convention, Glenn was not very stimulating. Barbra Jordan was pretty good, but **S**trauss was slower than Elliot. What business have we?

<u>Rumsfeld:</u> The amphibians are 40 hours away. The America is 26, the Saratoga is 96. About the time we think we can relax, things stir up.

Kissinger: We have a message from Prince Fahd urging evacuation.

Rumsfeld: Why don't you squeeze down the Embassy?

Kissinger: We might consider closing down. The Christians are beating the Palestinians against the anvil of the Syrians. We could pull out Seelye. He was going to leave in two weeks anyway. We can reduce to about 15. But we ought to consider whether we should close the Embassy. Movement in Beirut is practically impossible. OURSUMPER WEINER A KISSINGER

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And Arafat is saying now his greatest mistake has been moderation.

<u>President</u>: Let's get moving on it, but if a massacre starts, we have got to be very tough. Things are going to get worse, it seems.

Kissinger: Strategically we are in good shape. [He describes the possible outcomes.]

President: I see we have a P-3 and frigate in Kenya.

Rumsfeld: Here is the present disposition and plan. [He describes the P-3, Frigate, and carrier task force. I suggest tentatively keep the carrier around Diego Garcia and let one ship of the task force make a port call at Mombasa.]

President: Okay.

<u>Kissinger</u>: I like the port call idea, but let's just say the carrier is in the Indian Ocean, not off Kenya.

President: I saw Scranton on television. He sounded good to me.

Kissinger: It went a shade too far. He added a personal comment which was what the TV carried. I don't think Ambassadors should make personal statements, but it didn't make any substantive change. He just said he was "thrilled".

President: How about the resolutions?

Kissinger: Nothing has progressed that far. It could be that both would end up 8-7 -- which means not enough to pass.

Rumsfeld: Didn't Mobutu praise Amin and condemn Israel?

Kissinger: Publicly, but privately he thinks it was good.

<u>Rumsfeld:</u> I think we should make it tougher to do that. They know Amin is a bastard.

<u>Kissinger</u>: The hangup is the humiliation of this sort of invasion of an African country.

Rumsfeld: [Describes Ranger units and other outfits for special operations.]

I will develop a briefing to acquaint you with our capabilities.

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<u>Kissinger</u>: Schaufele is continuing his consultations. Kaunda and Nyerere are worried that Machel will not be willing to stop the guerrilla operations. Kaunda, Nyerere and Khama are meeting in Lusaka on the 14th. We have a dispute with the British on when to replace Smith. They want him out now. I would keep him there as a bargaining chip until everything is ready.

<u>Rumsfeld:</u> I hope we keep the British out front. This is triky and could blow.

Kissinger: But it will surely blow if we do nothing.

We are having a Verification Panel meeting to elaborate the two options really open to us.

<u>President:</u> How are we on the Olympics?

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<u>Kissinger:</u> I think you should stay out of it. If Peking thinks we are trying to force Taiwan in, we could end up in a confrontation with Peking. [Describes the PRC angle and the fact that they would prefer the IOC solution than the Canadian -- which is two Chinas.

<u>Rumsfeld:</u> This is a very touchy issue, with real down-side potential with the American people. We shouldn't get it turned into a one-China two-China problem.

<u>Kissinger:</u> That is why we must stay out of the substance and stick to the position that the host should not dictate the participation. Our position is that the Olympics are games, that participation is up to the IOC, and that the host's role is solely to provide facilities and it should not stipulate political conditions for attendance.

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