MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford Amb. Hans Georg Andersen, Republic of Iceland Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Arthur A. Hartman, Assistant Secretary for European Affairs Hampton Davis, Assistant Chief of Protocol

DATE AND TIME: Monday, July 19, 1976 2:10 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

SUBJECT: Presentation of Credentials

[The press came in for photos. The President and the Ambassador discussed the President's Rose Garden press conference and the weather. The press departed.]

President: When does it get cold in Iceland?

<u>Andersen:</u> It never gets really cold -- it doesn't go below zero. And we get very little snow.

<u>President:</u> I am happy to have you here. We are glad to have you in NATO and we are happy to have the bilateral defensive arrangements we have.

Andersen: Thank you. I have studied defense matters very seriously.

<u>President:</u> I understand you have participated in the Law of the Sea negotiation.

Andersen: I have headed my delegation.

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President: What is your appraisal of where it stands?

<u>Andersen:</u> Theoretically it can be finished in the next session, but practically it will take one more.

<u>President:</u> We hope it will be finished before our legislation takes effect next March.

Andersen: Yes. We didn't wait for the conference to conclude.

President: Have you resolved your problems with the British?

<u>Andersen</u>: Yes, I think so. We also had serious problems for a time with the FRG.

President: But the situation is okay now?

Andersen: Yes. I believe so.

<u>President:</u> Again, welcome to the United States and I am looking forward to seeing you tomorrow night [at the White House reception for the Diplomatic Corps.]



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