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WITHDRAWAL ID 018462

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Memorandum of Conversation

TITLE Ford, Kissinger
CREATION DATE 09/24/1976
VOLUME 2 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 031400973
COLLECTION TITLE National Security Adviser. Memoranda of
Conversations
BOX NUMBER 21
FOLDER TITLE September 24, 1976 - Ford, Kissinger

DATE WITHDRAWN 08/02/2004
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST GG

REDACTED

12/1/09

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DECLASSIFIED w/ portions exempted
E.O. 12958 (as amended) SEC 3.3
MR # 09-69 #11
State Rev 3/13/04; CIA-etc 12/1/09
By dal NARA, Date 1/6/10

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State
Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME: Friday, September 24, 1976
6:05 - 6:40 p.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office
The White House

Kissinger: I hadn't realized the degree of Soviet penetration in Africa. They own all the newspapers, for example.

I got tough with Nyerere when he started kicking me around.

Smith was a gentleman. I didn't have to kick him. I just laid out the situation.
and we couldn't guarantee anything, but at least this way they would have a chance. The Rhodesians were great; there was no whining. I told him if he rejected it I would be relieved, because in two years when it blew up we'd know we had done our best. I drafted a five-point plan which was then accepted. The uncertainty is what the Soviet Union will do.

The President: What can they do?

Kissinger: They can stir up Mozambique, one of the Rhodesian factions, etc. They may not dare to take you on. If they don't we can get an interim government sooner. We have to move fast before the opposition can mobilize.

The President: Where would Smith fit into the interim government?



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CLASSIFIED BY Henry A. Kissinger
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SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5(B) (1, 3)
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Kissinger: The whites would nominate the whites and the blacks the blacks.

The President: Would Nkomo be in?

Kissinger: Kaunda wants him but Nyerere is playing games.

I don't think the radicals will turn it down but they may try to delay. If they do, after the election you may want to let up on the whites a bit for the present.

The President: What about Namibia?

Kissinger: [Outlined the development of Namibian proposals].

I think we should play for time.

Scowcroft: And the UN?

Kissinger: We maybe can get a unanimous declaration. We would have to veto sanctions. I have sent Schaufele and Reinhardt around to line up the moderates.

We can claim major success in Namibia and we should.

In the South, portray it as keeping the Soviets out, preventing civil war and giving the whites a chance.

The President: How about sitting down with the editors from the South so we can get this in the proper perspective?

Kissinger: Maybe tomorrow or Monday. We'd better have more than just the South, though.

The President: Is Machel a problem?

Kissinger: Yes, but it is hard to say what we will do. He hasn't said anything yet.

[Discussion of Mexico, Middle East, Lebanon, boycott, Jewish community, Sidewinder/Maverick.]

[Secretary Kissinger will send someone to Mexico to try to get Echeverria to hold off on the fisheries agreement until November.]



