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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Gerald R. Ford
Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of State and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE & TIME:

PLACE:

Tuesday - January 14, 1975 9:26 - 10:10 a.m.

The Oval Office The White House

<u>Kissinger</u>: On the Soviet trade statement. The Soviets have seen it and aren't wild about it. What they want is to put more of their version in. We have, but I think we should let them put out their story.

When do you think we should put it out? I could switch my hearing and then we could do it Thursday.

President: If you can switch, I think it would help.

<u>Kissinger</u>: Okay, I can do it and then just step into the press room and announce it, or at a press conference.

Pre-sident: I think just the press room is better.

Kissinger: You got a letter from Allon: [Hands it to him.]

President: I would like to show this to Schlesinger.

Kissinger: There are two places where he says Defense is without instructions.

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President: Isn't this a highly unusual letter?

Kissinger: What you do with your Government is your business. When things don't happen, they should assume it is on your orders. I told Dinitz you wouldn't like it.

Brent and I have been talking. Israel is behaving with great disdain. Usually they are bugging us incessantly. Now nothing.

President: I thought I told Schlesinger. Should I be blunter?

<u>Kissinger</u>: Schlesinger can't be trusted. Laird was magnificent with Nixon this way. I have no personal problem with Schlesinger. He is fine with me. But I don't think you can trust him in a crisis.

President: I am going to get him over later this week.

<u>Kissinger:</u> On the financial negotiation the British are the worst -they really need the money. I told Healey we might reluctantly go to 3 billion. Simon thought 5 and he probably is right. But then they went right to 6 and wanted it in SDR's, which makes it 7.2. The British want it as high as possible, so they can utilize it, augment it by producer money and resist ours.

Healey is threatening to go to you and the Hill. I told Ramsbotham that that would finish it with us. If they get the 7.2, that is high enough, they don't need ours. We are getting reports that the British and French to a lesser degree are actively working against us.

President: If we say six, will they capitulate?

Kissinger: They may blow it up.

President: What is the loss?

<u>Kissinger</u>: We lose financial stability. The difference between Japan and Europe is something. The Japanese haven't said a thing about my Business Week interview. They are a step behind us -- that is fair. But they don't snipe at us.

President: Who is representing us in the meeting?



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Kissinger: Arthur Burns.

President: How about the Germans?

Kissinger: They are torn. The larger the IMF, the less they have to put out. But on the IMF, it has to be renewed each year, meaning we have to go back to the producers each year.

President: Is Simon okay?

<u>Kissinger:</u> I think he went up to six too soon, but he is okay. And Arthur will be steady.

<u>President:</u> Let it blow up. If Arthur stands firm, Bill will. Talk to Arthur.

Kissinger: I will call them both and tell them. I wouldn't see Healey but if there is real trouble, call Wilson.

On PL-480, we have worked out the high option and also one a little less.

[Discussion about the levels]

I will have a hell of a problem convincing Humphrey. Why don't I call Rog. If we could give Korea 80, that would be okay.

President: I saw where India is discovering oil.

<u>Kissinger</u>: They are finding it in more and more places. The cartel will surely break.

Rabasa is coming here. Echeverria wants to send him to Latin America to get Cuban recognition. I will tell him we oppose it. It should be handled at the Meeting of Foreign Ministers.

DOD has responded on Vietnam.

[Discussed and decided to hold up a bit on everything but the LSTs and destructors.]



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<u>Kissinger</u>: Here is a report from the British that our joint commission in Saudi Arabia is a vehicle to assure Fahd's succession to the throne.

Kennedy and Brock will put in a resolution giving Ecuador and Venezuela relief from the trade restriction.

President: They are working together?

Kissinger: No, separately.

<u>President:</u> Brock is a good guy. He has good political sense. He liked my speech.

Kissinger: We are having a WSAG today on the Middle East.

<u>President:</u> I noticed Portugal reportedly told Libya that the Azores wouldn't be available in another war.

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WITHDRAWAL ID 017927

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL .	•••	National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL	•••	Note
DESCRIPTION	•••	Brent Scowcroft's handwritten notes from meeting with Ford, Kissinger
CREATION DATE	•••	01/14/1975
VOLUME	•••	3 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER COLLECTION TITLE	ID . • • •	031400349 National Security Adviser. Memoranda of Conversations
BOX NUMBER	•••	8 January 14, 1975 - Ford, Kissinger
DATE WITHDRAWN	•••	05/25/2004 GG

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