

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SECRET/NODIS/XGDS

DECLASSIFIED  
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By dal NARA, Date 5/14/10

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: President 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 AND TIME: Friday, January 31, 1975  
9:28 - 10:25 a.m.

PLACE: The Oval Office

Kissinger: Callaghan was upset by what I told him on the Middle East. I said either they want to settle or they are setting me up. He said what is the quid pro quo for withdrawal? I said Egypt and Syria are separated; the moderate Arabs are strengthened; U. S. influence is strong; and Geneva convenes not in a spirit of frustration. The alternative is a stalemate which you would be asked to finance.

President: I am not so sure of that.

Kissinger: I fear they may be setting me up. I mentioned this to Dinitz and he said he would report it. That was four days ago.

President: Don't they know what to do?

Kissinger: I fear they may plan to stonewall. How they got 21 days supply I don't know. It couldn't have happened under Laird. I think I have to tell them that if they stonewall, they don't get a penny from us.

President: You can do it. This is bigger than any election issue.

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Kissinger: The Jewish Community is now saying, "Let's go to Geneva." That is the prescription of a stalemate. The Jewish groups have managed to prevent the nuclear power plant for Egypt. So now the French are getting it -- we lose the business and eight years of political leverage.

President: I think we have to tell Israel on your trip that I can't approve anything without further diplomatic movement.

Kissinger: I am going on two trips. The first trip should be low-key. I will get the maximum concessions from Sadat but I won't give them to Israel....

President: In the meeting with Wilson, should I say I agree with what you told Callaghan on Israeli intransigence? Don't the Brits see the problem?

Kissinger: They have ties to Israel and they are all screwed up. Callaghan is a nice guy but the most incompetent Foreign Minister I have ever seen. But it is good to have them slightly pro-Israel, to balance off the French. But they are the kookiest on the PLO -- they say it is a moral issue.



✓ PIK 31 Jan 75

Friday  
9:28-10:25 AM

~~Get to the Embassy by about 11:30~~

K Good for me - part by what I told him on the  
I said with my want to settle he is settling  
and says he said what is a good for of demand?  
I said E + S separated, <sup>Wolcott</sup> ~~Chase~~ strong third, US  
influence strong, Geneva known not in  
spirit of frustration. The alternative is a  
statement which you would have to ask  
to finance.

P Don't be sure of that.

K I fear they may be setting me up - I mentioned the  
to Devery & he said he would report it. That 4 days  
ago.

P Don't they know what to do?

K I fear they may plant stonewall. How they got 21 days  
supply I don't know. Couldn't have happened under  
hand. I think I don't tell them of my stonewall  
they don't get a penny from us.

P You can do it. This is bigger thing, big very  
election issue.

K Jewish community were saying let's go to Geneva.  
That is a prescription of stonewall. The Jewish  
groups have managed to prevent some power plants.  
French getting it - a business + 8 yrs of political  
involvement.

P I think we have to tell I am your trip that you can't  
oppose anything w/o agreement.

K I going on 2 trips, 1st trip should be low key. I  
would get more consensus from Sadat but want  
gone to turn to I.

P In my w/ Wakers, should I say I agree w/  
what you told Callaghan?



I intensify, Don't But to see - fork?

R.P. They have tried to I & they are all succeeded by  
Callaghan nice guy but most incompetent  
FBI I have ever seen. But it good to have  
them slightly pro-try to balance off the F.C.  
But they are a knockout on PhD - say it is a  
moral issue.

